LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO
Sixty-first Legislature Second Regular Session - 2012

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 426, As Amended in the Senate

BY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

AN ACT
RELATING TO EDUCATION; TO PROVIDE A PURPOSE; AMENDING CHAPTER 16, TITLE 33, IDAHO CODE, BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 33-1628, IDAHO CODE, TO ESTABLISH THE "8 IN 6 PROGRAM," TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAYING FOR CERTAIN SUMMER ONLINE AND ONLINE OVERLOAD COURSES, TO ESTABLISH CRITERIA RELATING TO PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, TO ESTABLISH PROVISIONS RELATING TO ELIGIBLE COURSES, TO PROVIDE FOR RULES AND TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF ACT. The purpose of this program is to identify those students who are taking courses in grades 7 through 12 at an accelerated rate and provide them with an incentive to participate in dual credit for early completers pursuant to the provisions of Section 33-1626, Idaho Code. The program will provide funding so that a portion of the summer online courses and online overload courses taken by such students will be paid for by the State Department of Education.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 16, Title 33, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended by the addition thereto of a NEW SECTION, to be known and designated as Section 33-1628, Idaho Code, and to read as follows:

33-1628. "8 IN 6 PROGRAM." (1) A program is hereby established in the state department of education to be known as the "8 in 6 Program."
(2) If a parent and student agree, by signing the appropriate form provided by the state department of education, to the conditions provided for in paragraphs (2)(a) and (b) of this section, the state department of education will pay for a portion of the cost of summer online courses and online overload courses as provided for in this section from the moneys appropriated for this purpose.
(a) The student and parent agree that the student shall take and successfully complete dual credit or professional-technical education courses for at least a portion of the student's courses during the 11th and/or 12th grade years. Funding for this requirement will not be provided by the "8 in 6 Program."
(b) The student and parent agree that the student shall take and successfully complete at least one (1) summer online or online overload course and a full course load of at least fourteen (14) credits per school year.
(c) The state shall pay two hundred twenty-five dollars ($225) per one (1) credit summer online course or one (1) credit online overload course taken in this program. Provided however, that if the Idaho digital learning academy (IDLA) receives a state guarantee or appropriation of at least five million dollars ($5,000,000) for fiscal year 2013, the
state shall pay no moneys for the "8 in 6 Program" for that fiscal year, and IDLA shall provide the online courses necessary to meet the needs of the "8 in 6 Program" for that fiscal year, at a cost not to exceed seventy-five dollars ($75.00) per course.
(d) The state shall pay for no more than two (2) credits of online overload courses per student per school year. The state shall pay for no more than two (2) credits of summer online courses per student per summer. The state shall pay for no more than a combined total of four (4) credits of summer online or online overload courses per student per year. The state shall pay for no more than a combined total of eight (8) credits of summer online and online overload courses per student during such student's participation in the program.
(3) Participation in this program shall be limited to no more than ten percent (10%) of students in each grade 7 through 12. Such limitation shall be applied initially on a school district-by-school district, grade-by-grade basis. If any grades do not fully utilize their available participation slots, the school district shall reallocate said participation slots to those grades in which more than ten percent (10%) of the students have applied for participation in the program. If any school districts do not fully utilize their available participation slots by July 1, the state department of education shall reallocate said participation slots to those districts in which more than ten percent (10%) of the students have applied for participation in the program. Students accepted into the program shall remain in the program from year to year unless they sign a withdrawal form developed by the state department of education. If a participating student transfers from one (1) school district to another, such student shall remain enrolled in the program, the ten percent (10%) participation limitation of the student's new school district notwithstanding. The state department of education shall maintain a list of participants.
(a) If the number of students applying for participation in the "8 in 6 Program" exceeds the number of participation slots available in the school district, the school district shall establish participation preference criteria. Such criteria shall include students who have successfully completed at least one (1) online course prior to participating in the program, and may include any of the following:

(i) Grade point average;
(ii) State-mandated summative achievement test results;
(iii) Other school district administered student assessments.
(b) If a student participating in the program fails to complete with a grade of "C" or better one (1) or more summer online or online overload courses while in the program, the student must pay for and successfully complete a summer online or online overload course with a grade of "C" or better before continuing in the program.

(4) Procedures for participating in the "8 in 6 Program" include the following: The school district shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that any student who considers participating in the program considers the challenges and time necessary to succeed in the program. Such efforts by the district shall be performed prior to a student participating in the program.
(5) Eligible courses. To qualify as an eligible course for the program, the course must be offered by a provider accredited by the organization
that accredits Idaho high schools or an organization whose accreditation of providers is recognized by the organization that accredits Idaho high schools. Dual credit, advanced placement and concurrent enrollment courses are not eligible under this program.

(6) The state board of education is hereby authorized to promulgate rules to implement the provisions of this section.

(7) Definitions:
(a) "8 in 6 Program" means the two (2) years of junior high, the four (4) years of high school and the first two (2) years of college or professional-technical preparation that normally take eight (8) years to complete are compressed into six (6) years by taking full course loads during the school year and one (1) or two (2) online courses during the summer or as online overload courses.
(b) "Full course load" means no fewer than fourteen (14) credits per school year.
(c) "Overload course" means a course taken that is in excess of or more than the number of courses taken in the normal school day as a normal school day is defined for fractional average daily attendance purposes by the state department of education.
(d) "Parent" means parent or parents or guardian or guardians.
(e) "School district" means an Idaho school district or a public charter school that provides education to any grades 7-12.
(f) "School year" means the normal school year that begins upon the conclusion of the break between grades and ends upon the beginning of the same break of the following year.