

Prior law provided for the seamless transfer of credits between and among public secondary and postsecondary educational institutions and charges the Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council (SATC) with the responsibility to coordinate, oversee, and monitor transfer and articulation activities.

New law retains prior law and additionally requires SATC, in consultation and collaboration with the Bd. of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges (board), to oversee the development and implementation of a process to award and transfer college credit for the academic content embedded in career and technical education and industry-based certification courses.

New law requires the board to develop "academic transfer modules" to recognize the academic content embedded in career and technical education and industry-based certification courses which can be applied to award a student with partial or full credit in an equivalent academic course offered by any public state community college.

New law provides that the content of each academic transfer module may be contained in a single course or a sequence of courses. Further provides that each academic transfer module shall be equal to at least one college credit hour and that modules can be combined to become the academic equivalent of a complete academic college course.

New law further requires the board to:

- (1) Align the content contained in each academic transfer module with the content standards and learning competencies established for the equivalent academic college course to which the module will be applied.
- (2) Develop testing, as necessary, to validate the content of each academic transfer module to ensure its academic equivalency to the college course to which the module will be applied.
- (3) Develop a process whereby academic transfer modules may be banked until such time as the student enrolls in an academic degree program offered by a public state community college and such modules can be transferred for academic college credit.
- (4) Ensure that career and technical education and industry-based certification course instructors are trained and meet the standards required for such courses and course work to be eligible for transfer for college credit.
- (5) Collaborate and coordinate with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to ensure that students enrolled in postsecondary career and technical education and industry-based certification courses offered through local public school systems and secondary schools shall also be eligible to earn academic transfer modules.
- (6) Submit the individual academic transfer modules and the process developed to transfer the postsecondary credit earned through such modules to the receiving community college to SATC for consideration and recommendations. With SATC approval, the board shall submit the proposed transfer process to the Board of Regents for approval prior to implementation.

New law requires the board to submit a written report to the Senate and House committees on education, not later than September thirtieth of each year, regarding the status of the implementation of the academic transfer module process.

Prior law required the Board of Regents to annually report to the Senate and House committees on education regarding the status of statewide articulation and transfer of credit across all educational institutions in the state and specifies the data to be included in the report.

New law retains prior law and additionally provides that such report include the status of the implementation of the academic transfer module process developed pursuant to new law.

Effective upon signature of the governor (June 7, 2013).

(Adds R.S. 17:3162(D), 3165.1, and 3168(5))

