

HOUSE BILL 1262

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5lr2889

By: **Delegate Wilkins**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **County Boards of Education – Post College and Career Readiness Pathways –**
3 **Payment of Costs**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing a county board of education to develop and establish income
5 eligibility guidelines and procedures for payment of costs for a certain post college
6 and career readiness pathway, except under certain circumstances; and generally
7 relating to post college and career readiness pathways.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

9 Article – Education

10 Section 7–205.1(a)

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

14 Article – Education

15 Section 7–205.1(g)

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Education**

21 7–205.1.

22 (a) In this section, “CCR standard” means the college and career readiness
23 standards established under this section.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (g) (1) Subject to [paragraph] **PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (4)** of this subsection,
2 [beginning in the 2023–2024 school year,] each county board shall provide all students who
3 meet the CCR standard required under subsection (c) of this section with access to the
4 following post college and career readiness (post–CCR) pathways, at no cost to the student
5 or the student’s parents, including the cost of any fees:

6 (i) A competitive entry college preparatory program, chosen by the
7 county board, consisting of:

- 8 1. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Program;
- 9 2. The Cambridge AICE Diploma Program; or
- 10 3. A comparable program consisting of Advanced Placement
11 courses specified by the College Board;

12 (ii) A program that allows a student, through an early college
13 program or dual enrollment at a student’s high school and an institution of higher
14 education to earn:

- 15 1. An associate degree; or
- 16 2. At least 60 credits toward a bachelor’s degree; and

17 (iii) A robust set of career and technology education programs that
18 are recommended by the CTE Skills Standards Advisory Committee and approved by the
19 CTE Committee and that allow students to complete:

- 20 1. A credit or noncredit certificate or license program, course,
21 or sequence of courses, including a program, course, or courses taken through dual
22 enrollment under § 15–127 of this article, at a secondary or postsecondary institution,
23 through an Advanced Placement course at a secondary institution, or through an
24 apprenticeship sponsor that leads to an industry recognized occupational–credential or
25 postsecondary certificate;
- 26 2. A registered apprenticeship program approved by the
27 Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Maryland Department
28 of Labor; or
- 29 3. A youth apprenticeship program, under Title 18, Subtitle
30 18 of this article.

31 (2) **(I) [Each] SUBJECT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS**
32 **PARAGRAPH, EACH** public high school shall provide access to the programs described
33 under paragraph (1) of this subsection through that public school or through another public
34 school in the county.

1 **(II) 1. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSUBPARAGRAPH 2 OF**
2 **THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, A COUNTY BOARD MAY DEVELOP AND ESTABLISH INCOME**
3 **ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR PAYMENT OF COSTS FOR THE**
4 **POST-CCR PATHWAY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

5 **2. A STUDENT WITH A FAMILY INCOME BELOW 400% OF**
6 **THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL SHALL BE PROVIDED ACCESS TO THE POST-CCR**
7 **PATHWAY UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION AT NO COST TO THE**
8 **STUDENT OR THE STUDENT'S PARENTS.**

9 (3) (i) Each student who meets the CCR standard required under
10 subsection (c) of this section shall be enrolled in at least one post-CCR pathway described
11 in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

12 (ii) Each student who enrolls in a post-CCR pathway shall remain
13 enrolled in the student's public high school.

14 (iii) Each public high school shall provide to every student, regardless
15 of whether the student is enrolled in a post-CCR pathway, the full range of services to
16 which the student is entitled, including:

17 1. Personal, career, and academic advising; and

18 2. Counseling, in accordance with § 7-126 of this title, to help
19 the student choose one or more post-CCR pathways, or courses within a post-CCR
20 pathway, that fits with the student's educational and career goals.

21 (iv) Priority for counseling and advising services described under
22 subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph shall be given to students who have not met the CCR
23 standard by the end of 10th grade.

24 (v) Any high school graduation requirements that a student does not
25 meet by the time the student has completed the assessment required under subsection (d)
26 of this section shall be provided within the post-CCR pathway the student chooses.

27 (4) To phase in expansion of dual enrollment to maximize the number of
28 students who can earn the maximum number of dual enrollment credits consistent with
29 the phased increases in school funding, for fiscal years 2025 through 2027, the State Board
30 and the Accountability and Implementation Board, in consultation with each local school
31 system, may limit the number and types of courses that a student dually enrolled at the
32 student's public high school and at an institution of higher education may enroll in during
33 the school year at the institution of higher education as part of the post-CCR pathway in
34 accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection and § 15-127 of this article.

35 (5) (i) The State Board shall adopt regulations to carry out this
36 subsection.

- 1 (ii) The regulations shall include standards that:
- 2 1. Guarantee, to the extent practicable, statewide uniformity
3 in the quality of the post-CCR pathways;
- 4 2. Meet the requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection;
5 and
- 6 3. Require high school graduation credit to be awarded for
7 any programs administered in accordance with this subsection.

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
9 1, 2025.