

## Chapter 216

**(House Bill 569)**

AN ACT concerning

**Higher Education – Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits – English as a  
Second Language Courses  
(Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)**

FOR the purpose of requiring a public community college to consider certain language courses as eligible for certain credits toward an associate’s degree under certain circumstances; requiring that certain credits for certain language or humanities courses earned by students who transfer from certain community colleges to certain institutions of higher education be transferable; ~~prohibiting~~ *requiring* certain institutions of higher education ~~from denying~~ *to review and consider* the transfer of certain credits for certain language or humanities courses ~~for any reason~~; and generally relating to the transfer of credits from community colleges to institutions of higher education.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
 Article – Education  
 Section 10–101(c) and (h)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Education  
 Section 11–207(c) and 15–117(b)  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY adding to  
Article – Education  
Section 11–207.1  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Education**

10–101.

- (c) “Commission” means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

(h) (1) “Institution of higher education” means an institution of postsecondary education that generally limits enrollment to graduates of secondary schools, and awards degrees at either the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level.

(2) “Institution of higher education” includes public, private nonprofit, and for-profit institutions of higher education.

11-207.

(c) (1) The Commission, in collaboration with the public institutions of higher education, shall develop and implement a statewide transfer agreement whereby at least 60 credits of general education, elective, and major courses that a student earns at any community college in the State toward an associate of arts or associate of science degree shall be transferable to any public senior higher education institution in the State for credit toward a bachelor’s degree by July 1, 2016.

**(2) (I) THE AGREEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15-117(B)(3) OF THIS ARTICLE BE TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE.**

**(II) ~~AN A PUBLIC~~ INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE MAY NOT DENY THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH FOR ANY REASON.**

**11-207.1.**

**(A) ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15-117(B)(3) OF THIS ARTICLE ~~SHALL~~ MAY BE TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE.**

**(B) A PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE ~~MAY NOT DENY~~ SHALL REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION ~~FOR ANY REASON.~~**

15-117.

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, beginning with fall 2015, the standard number of credits required for an associate’s degree from a public community college is 60 credit hours.

(2) The standard number of credits required under paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply if:

- degree;
- (i) The degree program is defined as more than a 2-year associate's degree;
  - (ii) Professional accreditation requires a higher number of credit hours or requires course work that cannot be completed in 60 credits; or
  - (iii) Certification requirements result in a need for credit hours in excess of 60.

**(3) A PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL CONSIDER A COURSE OR PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER AS ELIGIBLE FOR EITHER WORLD LANGUAGE OR HUMANITIES ~~ELECTIVES~~ CREDIT, OR BOTH, TOWARD A STUDENT'S ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE IF THE COURSE IS NOT CLASSIFIED BY THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS A REMEDIAL COURSE.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

**Approved by the Governor, April 25, 2024.**