

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 242 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: H2/8/23
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1329

By: Representatives R. Scott Richardson, *Andrews, Beaty Jr., Joey Carr, G. Hodges, McClure, Rye*
By: Senators *J. English, J. Dotson*

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING ACADEMIC STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY
THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION;
TO REQUIRE THE DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION TO INCLUDE IN THE ACADEMIC STANDARDS A
MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE
COMPARABLE ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE ACADEMIC
CLASSES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO CREATE A MEANS BY WHICH PUBLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS MAY SUBSTITUTE COMPARABLE
ELECTIVE COURSEWORK IN CAREER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR REQUIRED CORE
ACADEMIC CLASSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-15-2906, concerning the establishment of academic standards by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(d)(1) The division shall include in the academic standards a means by which a public school student may substitute comparable elective coursework pertaining to career and technical education for core academic classes that are required for graduation under the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts.



(2)(A) When establishing the means required under subdivision (d)(1) of this section, the division shall create an approval process whereby comparable elective coursework pertaining to career and technical education may be substituted for core academic classes.

(B)(i) For purposes of creating the approval process for substituting required core academic classes with comparable elective coursework pertaining to career and technical education as required under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section, there is established the Career and Technical Education with Embedded Academics Certification Committee.

(ii) The committee established under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall:

(a) Consult with the division in order to establish the approval process required by subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section;

(b) Include one (1) member from each of the education service cooperatives, who shall be appointed by the director of each education service cooperative;

(c) Review academic standards and analyze the comparable career and technical education standards for embedded academic content that are or will be offered in the upcoming school year;

(d)(1) Produce a crosswalk document that shows the alignment of relevant core academic standards to the career and technical education standards.

(2) Each alignment described by subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall offer the rationale as to why a lesson concerning academic content may be substituted.

(3)(A) The crosswalk document required under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section shall be provided to the division by *December 15* of each year.

(B) The division shall certify the alignments proposed in the crosswalk document required under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(ii)(d)(1) of this section as eligible to be substitute comparable elective coursework under this section each year by *February 1*.

APPROVED: 3/9/23