



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

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## Bill Analysis

Carrie Burggraf

### H.B. 445

131st General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

**Reps.** Dovilla and Anielski, Arndt, Blessing, Boccieri, Fedor, Hambley, Perales, Phillips, Rezabek

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### **BILL SUMMARY**

- Specifies that any textbook purchased for a course under the College Credit Plus (CCP) program is the property of the entity that paid for the textbook.
- Requires a student to return, at the end of the term, any textbook purchased for a CCP course to the entity that paid for it, if the student did not purchase the textbook.
- Specifies that a school's policy for awarding grades and calculating class standing for CCP courses must be equivalent to the school's policy for comparable courses taken under another Advanced Standing program or for comparable honors courses.
- Prohibits schools from being required to award a weighted grade or enhance a student's class standing for a CCP course that is not comparable to an Advanced Standing or honors course.
- Requires high school credit for CCP courses to be awarded at a ratio of one unit of high school credit for every four credit hours of college credit.
- Prohibits a student from being denied the opportunity to participate in an extracurricular activity offered by the student's school, or, for certain students, the school to which the student would have been assigned, solely because the student is participating or has participated in the CCP program.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### College Credit Plus program

The College Credit Plus (CCP) program allows high school students who are enrolled in public or nonpublic high schools or who are home-instructed to enroll in nonsectarian college courses to receive high school and college credit. College courses under CCP may be taken at a public or private college, as well as an eligible out-of-state college.

#### **Textbooks purchased for CCP courses**

The bill specifies that any textbook purchased for a CCP course is the property of the entity that paid for the textbook. Additionally, the bill requires that, if the student did not pay for the textbook, the student must return the textbook at the end of the term to the entity that paid for it.<sup>1</sup>

Current law specifies which entity is responsible for the cost of textbooks under the program. If the student is participating under "Option A" (under which the student is responsible for all costs related to participation), the student is responsible for the cost of textbooks.<sup>2</sup> Under "Option B" (under which the state makes a payment to the college on the student's behalf), the responsibility for the cost of textbooks depends upon the type of high school and college in which the student is enrolled and whether the high school and college have entered into an agreement specifying an alternative payment structure.<sup>3</sup>

For more information on which entity is responsible for the cost of textbooks for students participating under Option B, see "**Textbooks, fees, and charging students for participation**," in the LSC Final Analysis for H.B. 487, online at the Ohio General Assembly Archives.<sup>4</sup>

#### **Awarding of grades and calculation of class standing**

Current law requires each public school and participating chartered nonpublic school to implement a policy for the awarding of grades and the calculation of class standing for CCP courses. The policy must be equivalent to the school's policy for

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3365.072; conforming changes in R.C. 3365.032.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 3365.06(A), not in the bill.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 3365.06(B) and 3365.07, neither in the bill.

<sup>4</sup> <http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/>.



courses taken under other Advanced Standing programs, such as Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses,<sup>5</sup> or for courses designated as "honors courses" by the school. Therefore, if the school's policy for Advanced Standing courses or honors courses includes awarding a weighted grade or enhancing a student's class standing, then the school's policy for CCP courses must do the same.

The bill modifies this requirement by specifying that the school's policy for CCP courses must be equivalent to the school's policy for *comparable* Advanced Standing or honors courses. However, if a CCP course and an Advanced Standing or honors course are not comparable, the bill prohibits schools from being required to award a weighted grade or enhance a student's class standing for that CCP course.<sup>6</sup>

### **Awarding of high school credit**

The bill requires that, for courses completed under the CCP program, high school credit must be awarded at a ratio of 1:4, or one unit of high school credit for every four credit hours of college credit (or the equivalent number of credit hours for colleges operating on a quarter schedule).<sup>7</sup>

Currently, by rule of the Department of Higher Education, schools must award high school credit at a ratio of one unit of high school credit for CCP courses that are three or more credit hours. If a CCP course is less than three credit hours, the school must award a proportional amount of high school credit.<sup>8</sup> Separate continuing law specifies that one unit of high school credit is equal to a minimum of 120 hours of instruction, or, for a laboratory course, 150 hours of instruction.<sup>9</sup>

### **Delivery of courses**

The bill specifies that if a CCP course is offered and delivered on the campus of a student's high school, that student cannot enroll in a comparable CCP course that is delivered on the college's campus, at another location operated by the college, or online.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> R.C. 3313.6013(A), not in the bill.

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 3365.04(E).

<sup>7</sup> R.C. 3365.12(B)(1).

<sup>8</sup> Ohio Administrative Code 3333-1-65.2(B)(6).

<sup>9</sup> R.C. 3313.603(A)(1), not in the bill.

<sup>10</sup> R.C. 3365.03(D).

Under current law, there are several methods by which students receive instruction under the CCP program. These include (1) at the college, at another location operated by the college, or online and taught by college faculty, (2) at the high school and taught by college faculty, or (3) at the high school and taught by a high school teacher. Payments made by the Department of Education to colleges for CCP are calculated according to these different methods of instruction, as well as according to the type of high school and college in which the student is enrolled.<sup>11</sup>

### **Participation in extracurricular activities**

The bill prohibits a student who is enrolled in a public or nonpublic school from being denied the opportunity to participate in an extracurricular activity offered by that school solely because the student is participating or has participated in the CCP program.<sup>12</sup> An extracurricular activity means "a pupil activity program that a school or school district operates and is not included in the school district's graded course of study, including an interscholastic extracurricular activity that a school or school district sponsors or participates in and that has participants from more than one school or school district."<sup>13</sup> Pupil activity programs include programs in music, language, arts, speech, government, and athletics.<sup>14</sup>

Additionally, the bill applies the same prohibition to an extracurricular activity that is offered by the school to which the student would have been assigned, if the student is enrolled in a community school or STEM school or is home-instructed. Under current law, each school district must afford the district's resident students who do not attend a district school the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities offered by the school to which the student would otherwise be assigned during the current school year. This includes resident students who are enrolled in community schools, STEM schools, or private schools, as well as those who are home-instructed.<sup>15</sup>

### **Background on College Credit Plus**

The College Credit Plus (CCP) program allows students who are enrolled in public or participating nonpublic high schools or who are home-schooled to enroll in nonsectarian college courses to receive high school and college credit. The program

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<sup>11</sup> R.C. 3365.07, not in the bill.

<sup>12</sup> R.C. 3313.5314.

<sup>13</sup> R.C. 3313.537, not in the bill.

<sup>14</sup> R.C. 3313.53, not in the bill.

<sup>15</sup> R.C. 3313.537 and 3313.5312, neither in the bill.

began operation with the 2015-2016 school year and replaced the similar Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program. For a detailed description of the CCP program currently in effect, see the LSC Final Analysis for H.B. 487, online at the Ohio General Assembly Archives.<sup>16</sup> Minor changes were enacted in H.B. 64 of the 131st General Assembly. For a description of these changes, see the LSC Final Analysis for H.B. 64, online at the General Assembly website.<sup>17</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-03-16

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<sup>16</sup> <http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/>.

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.legislature.ohio.gov/legislation/legislation-documents?id=GA131-HB-64>.

