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S.B. 219
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Williams

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SUMMARY

- Requires the Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Higher Education, the Council Office within the Department of Job and Family Services, and the State Workforce Policy Board to develop and administer the Career Pathways Apprenticeship Program for students in grades 9-12.
- Requires the program to establish partnerships between schools and public and private entities, provide information and technical assistance to program enrollees, and reduce obstacles to and ensure compatibility with statutory requirements for earning high school credit through work-based learning experiences.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Career Pathways Apprentices Program

The bill requires the Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Higher Education, the Council Office within the Department of Job and Family Services, and the State Workforce Policy Board to develop and administer the Career Pathways Apprentices Program for students in grades 9-12.¹

The program must establish partnerships between schools, businesses, communities, local government entities, and nonprofit organizations to create career pathways for apprenticeships in manufacturing, information technology, financial services, business operations, healthcare, and education. It also must provide information and technical assistance to program enrollees and reduce obstacles to and ensure compatibility with

¹ R.C. 3303.08(B).

statutory requirements for earning high school credit through work-based learning experiences.²

The Department of Education, in conjunction with the other state entities, must adopt rules to administer the program. The bill specifies that the program may incorporate or work in conjunction with other apprentice and pre-apprentice programs already in operation in Ohio.³

Background

Pre-apprenticeship training programs

H.B. 49 of the 132nd General Assembly, enacted in 2017, required the Department of Education and the Department of Job and Family Services, in consultation with the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation, to establish an option for career-technical education students to participate in pre-apprenticeship training programs that impart the skills and knowledge to prepare students for a formal Registered Apprenticeship training program.⁴ A pre-apprenticeship can provide classroom training and hands-on labs related to an apprenticeship occupation. It may also include paid work experience, and many enable students to earn credit toward the completion requirements for a Registered Apprenticeship program.

Restrictions

There are restrictions in the state minor labor laws that can affect pre-apprenticeship programs. Those laws prescribe who may work when and where. Generally, employers may not employ persons under the age of 18 without an appropriate age and schooling certificate or, as they are more commonly known, "work permits," "proof-of-age," or "age and schooling" certificates.⁵

Further, minors may not be employed in any occupation "found to be hazardous or detrimental to the health and well-being of minors" under rules adopted by the Director of Commerce.⁶ The minimum age for employment is 14, and these individuals may work no more than 3 hours on a school day or 18 total hours in a school week. They may work up to 8 hours on a nonschool day and up to 40 hours in a nonschool week.⁷

Apprenticeships

An apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job training and related technical instruction. A student engaged in an apprenticeship must be at least 16 years of age except

² R.C. 3303.08(C) and 3313.603(J)(3), the latter not in the bill.

³ R.C. 3303.08(D).

⁴ R.C. 3313.904, not in the bill.

⁵ R.C. 4109.02(A), not in the bill.

⁶ R.C. 4109.05, not in the bill.

⁷ R.C. 3331.01 and 4109.02(A), neither in the bill.

where a higher minimum age standard is required by law, and the program must be registered with the Ohio Apprenticeship Council to teach a skilled occupation pursuant to a registered apprenticeship agreement. Apprenticeships are limited to skilled occupations and trades that meet basic criteria through on-the-job training and related technical instruction. Currently, there are over 950 occupations that have been recognized as apprentice occupations but more are continually being added to the list.

Related instruction is commonly provided in the classroom, but other types of instruction, such as online learning and individualized instruction are also permitted. Federal rules recommend that apprentices complete at least 144 hours of related instruction per year, and many programs subsequently choose to require that amount. In many programs, the related instruction can lead to a college degree, thereby providing an individual with the opportunity to earn both academic and occupational credentials simultaneously.⁸

Credit through subject area competency

H.B. 49 also required the Department of Education to develop a framework for school districts and community schools to use in granting units of high school credit to students who demonstrate subject area competency through work-based learning experiences, internships, or cooperative education.

Districts and schools, beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, must comply with the framework. Each district and school must review any policy it has adopted regarding the demonstration of subject area competency to identify ways to incorporate work-based learning experience, internships, and cooperative education into the policy in order to increase student engagement and opportunities to earn units of high school credit.⁹

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	10-15-19

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⁸ <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Career-Tech/Apprenticeships-and-Internships>.

⁹ R.C. 3313.603(J), not in the bill.