

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1186 Session of  
2006

INTRODUCED BY MUSTO, MELLOW, BOSCOLA, MADIGAN, C. WILLIAMS,  
PILEGGI, FONTANA, ERICKSON, STACK, EARLL, RAFFERTY, RHOADES,  
STOUT, COSTA, LOGAN, WAUGH, FERLO, LAVALLE, WOZNIAK, KITCHEN,  
WASHINGTON, A. WILLIAMS, O'PAKE, KASUNIC, GREENLEAF, BROWNE  
AND HUGHES, APRIL 17, 2006

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, APRIL 17, 2006

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
5 laws relating thereto," further providing for educational  
6 excellence through concurrent enrollment.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. Sections 1603-B and 1611-B of the act of March  
10 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of  
11 1949, added July 13, 2005 (P.L.226, No.46), are amended to read:  
12 Section 1603-B. Responsibilities of department and State Board  
13 of Education.

14 (a) Rules and regulations.--The State Board of Education  
15 shall promulgate any regulations necessary to carry out the  
16 provisions of this article pursuant to the act of June 25, 1982  
17 (P.L.633, No.181), known as the Regulatory Review Act.

18 (b) Promotional materials.--The department shall publish

1 promotional materials on its publicly accessible website that  
2 may be used by school entities to inform parents and students  
3 enrolled in the school entities about the requirements, features  
4 and opportunities of concurrent enrollment programs established  
5 under this article. To the extent that the department provides  
6 school entities with printed promotional materials for  
7 dissemination, the department shall make such materials  
8 available, upon request, to any charter school, nonpublic  
9 school, private school or home education program.

10 (c) Grants.--

11 (1) The department shall provide a grant to any school  
12 entity that has applied for grant funds under section 1611-  
13 B(c) and has approved a concurrent enrollment program as set  
14 forth in this article. The grant amount to each school entity  
15 shall be calculated for each concurrent course as follows:

16 (i) Determine the total approved cost for all  
17 concurrent students who are residents of the school  
18 district or enrolled in the area vocational-technical  
19 school.

20 (ii) Multiply the amount from subparagraph (i) by  
21 the sum of 0.425 and the market value/income aid ratio of  
22 the school entity, provided that where a concurrent  
23 student is enrolled in an area vocational-technical  
24 school, the market value/income aid ratio shall be the  
25 average of the market value/income aid ratios of the  
26 concurrent students' school districts of residence.

27 (2) The total amount of grants provided for concurrent  
28 courses classified as early college high school, middle  
29 college high school or gateway to college programs shall not  
30 exceed [4%] 8% of the total amount of funds appropriated for

concurrent enrollment programs under this article.

(3) The total amount of grants provided on behalf of concurrent students who are enrolled in charter schools, nonpublic schools, private schools or home education programs shall not exceed 4% of the total amount of funds appropriated for concurrent enrollment programs under this article.

(4) The grant amount shall not exceed 100% of the total approved cost of a concurrent course. Where funds appropriated for this program are insufficient to fund the full amount of all grants calculated under this subsection, each grant amount shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.

(d) Supplemental grants.--

(1) The department shall provide a supplemental grant amount to any school entity that has applied for grant funds under section 1611-B(c) and has at least one low-income concurrent student enrolled in a concurrent course. The supplemental grant amount shall equal the cost of tuition, books and fees for which a low-income concurrent student is responsible in order to enroll in a concurrent course.

(2) The sum of all supplemental grants provided under this subsection shall not exceed [8%] 25% of the total amount of funds appropriated for concurrent enrollment programs under this article. Where funds available for supplemental grants are insufficient to fund the full amount of all supplemental grants under this subsection, supplemental grant amounts shall be reduced on a pro rata basis.

(e) Technical assistance.--Upon request of a board of school directors of a school entity, the department shall provide technical assistance in the development of concurrent enrollment agreements and concurrent enrollment programs.

1 (f) Annual report.--The department shall produce an annual  
2 report on concurrent enrollment programs using the reporting  
3 information submitted by school entities under section 1611-  
4 B(b). The annual report shall be provided to the chairman and  
5 minority chairman of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate,  
6 the chairman and minority chairman of the Appropriations  
7 Committee of the House of Representatives, the chairman and  
8 minority chairman of the Education Committee of the Senate and  
9 the chairman and minority chairman of the Education Committee of  
10 the House of Representatives. The report shall be published on  
11 the department's publicly accessible website.

12 Section 1611-B. Responsibilities of school entities.

13 (a) Concurrent enrollment program.--A school entity seeking  
14 a grant under section 1603-B(c) shall do all of the following:

15 (1) Enter into a concurrent enrollment agreement with an  
16 eligible postsecondary institution or institutions as  
17 required under section 1613-B.

18 (2) Form a concurrent enrollment committee as required  
19 under section 1612-B.

20 (b) Annual reporting information.--A school entity that  
21 receives a grant under section 1603-B(c) shall submit an annual  
22 report to the department. The report shall include:

23 (1) The eligible postsecondary institution or  
24 institutions with which the school entity has established a  
25 concurrent enrollment program.

26 (2) The number of concurrent students participating in a  
27 concurrent enrollment program.

28 (3) The number of concurrent students participating in a  
29 concurrent enrollment program who are enrolled in early  
30 college high school, middle college high school or gateway to

college programs.

(4) The approved courses offered through a concurrent enrollment program.

(5) The total approved cost for each concurrent course.

(6) The total amount of grant funds received pursuant to section 1603-B(c).

(c) Application for grant funds.--

(1) A school entity seeking grant funds under section 1603-B(c) for the 2005-2006 school year shall submit an application to the department no later than September 15, 2005[, and August 15 of each year thereafter]. The application shall include:

[(1) The total approved cost of each concurrent course included in the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(2) The number of concurrent students to be enrolled in each concurrent course pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(3) The cost of tuition, books and fees for which a student will be responsible in order to enroll in each concurrent course included in the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(4) The number of low-income concurrent students to be enrolled in each concurrent course pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(5) The number of concurrent students to be enrolled in early college high school, middle college high school or gateway to college programs pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(6) The eligible postsecondary institutions at which concurrent courses will be offered pursuant to the concurrent

enrollment agreement.]

(i) The total approved cost of each concurrent course included in the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(ii) The number of concurrent students to be enrolled in each concurrent course pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(iii) The cost of tuition, books and fees for which a student will be responsible in order to enroll in each concurrent course included in the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(iv) The number of low-income concurrent students to be enrolled in each concurrent course pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(v) The number of concurrent students to be enrolled in early college high school, middle college high school or gateway to college programs pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(vi) The eligible postsecondary institutions at which concurrent courses will be offered pursuant to the concurrent enrollment agreement.

(2) A school entity seeking grant funds under section 1603-B(c) for the 2006-2007 school year shall submit an application by June 15, 2006, or within ten days of the effective date of the paragraph, and by June 15 of each year thereafter. Applications submitted under this paragraph shall include all of the provisions required by paragraph (1)(i) through (vi).

(d) Use of grant funds.--A school entity shall use the grants provided under section 1603-B(c) and (d) to pay the portion of total approved costs for which it is provided grants.

1       (e) Limitation.--A school entity shall not be responsible  
2 for the payment of any portion of the total approved costs for  
3 any concurrent student enrolled in a charter school, nonpublic  
4 school, private school or home education program in excess of  
5 the grants provided under section 1603-B(c) and (d).

6       (f) Construction.--Nothing in this article shall be  
7 construed to preclude a school entity that does not receive a  
8 grant under section 1603-B(c) from continuing or entering into  
9 an agreement with an institution of higher education under the  
10 provisions of section 1525.

11       Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.