
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1013 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY GLEIM, ECKER, STAATS, HAMM, IRVIN, ISAACSON, DAY,
SCHLEGEL CULVER, PICKETT, ROWE, PISCIOTTANO, BROOKS, HILL-
EVANS, KAUFFMAN, CIRESI, KEEFER, N. NELSON, RYAN, JAMES,
CONKLIN, MENTZER, R. MACKENZIE, ZIMMERMAN, GAYDOS, MOUL,
HERSHEY, M. MACKENZIE AND B. MILLER, MARCH 25, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 25, 2021

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," in preliminary provisions, further
6 providing for Keystone Exams and graduation requirements.

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

9 Section 1. Section 121(c.1)(3)(i)(D) and (d) of the act of
10 March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code
11 of 1949, are amended and the section is amended by adding a
12 subsection to read:

13 Section 121. Keystone Exams and Graduation Requirements.--*

14 * *

15 (c.1) Notwithstanding section 2604-B(b)(2)(v), 22 Pa. Code §
16 4.24, 4.51 or 4.51c or any statute or regulation to the
17 contrary, in any school year in which a demonstration of
18 proficiency on a Keystone Exam is required for high school

1 graduation, a student shall be deemed proficient if the student
2 demonstrates one of the following:

3 * * *

4 (3) Successful completion of locally established, grade-
5 based requirements for academic content areas associated with
6 each Keystone Exam on which the student did not achieve at least
7 a proficient score and demonstration of three pieces of evidence
8 that reflect readiness for meaningful postsecondary engagement
9 consistent with the student's goals and career plan, which shall
10 include:

11 (i) One of the following:

12 * * *

13 (D) Attainment of an industry-recognized credential[, as
14 identified in the industry credential resource book or in the
15 industry-based learning guidelines compiled by the department].

16 * * *

17 (c.9a) No later than the beginning of the 2021-2022 school
18 year, an industry-recognized credential attained by a student
19 shall be included on the student's transcript.

20 * * *

21 (d) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
22 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless
23 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

24 "Accredited four-year nonprofit institution of higher
25 education." Any of the following:

26 (1) A university within the State System of Higher Education
27 under Article XX-A.

28 (2) A State-related institution as defined in section 1502-
29 A.

30 (3) Any accredited nonprofit public, private or independent

1 college or university that confers four-year baccalaureate
2 degrees.

3 "Accredited nonprofit institution of higher education." Any
4 of the following:

5 (1) A community college operating under Article XIX-A.

6 (2) An accredited four-year nonprofit institution of higher
7 education.

8 (3) Any accredited nonprofit public, private or independent
9 college or university.

10 (4) The Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology.

11 "ACT." A standardized test for the assessment of college
12 readiness administered by ACT.

13 "ACT WorkKeys assessment." An assessment of workplace skills
14 administered by ACT.

15 "Advanced Placement Program." A program authorized by the
16 college board that allows a student to study college-level
17 subjects while enrolled in high school and to receive advanced
18 placement and college credit for earning a qualified score on
19 the course-related Advanced Placement exam.

20 "Approved alternative assessment." A SAT, PSAT, ACT or Armed
21 Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test.

22 "Approved industry-based competency assessment." A NOCTI
23 exam, NIMS assessment or other industry-based competency
24 assessment identified by the Secretary of Education and approved
25 by the State Board of Education or identified by an act of the
26 General Assembly.

27 "Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test." The
28 aptitude test developed and maintained by the United States
29 Department of Defense.

30 "Chief school administrator." The superintendent of a school

1 district, executive director of an intermediate unit,
2 administrative director of an area career and technical school
3 or chief executive officer of a charter school, cyber charter
4 school, regional charter school or multiple charter school
5 organization.

6 "Concurrent enrollment course." A course in which a
7 secondary student is enrolled and, upon successful completion of
8 which both high school and postsecondary credit are earned.

9 "Cooperative education program." A program of instruction
10 whereby students alternate or coordinate their high school
11 studies with a job in a field related to their academic or
12 career objectives.

13 "CTE Concentrator." A student under Article XVIII who, by
14 the end of a reporting year, will be reported as successfully
15 completing at least fifty percent (50%) of the minimum technical
16 instructional hours required under 22 Pa. Code Ch. 339 (relating
17 to vocational education).

18 "Department." The Department of Education of the
19 Commonwealth.

20 "Established score." A score recommended by the secretary
21 and approved by the State Board of Education.

22 "GPA." Grade point average.

23 "Industry-recognized credential." A credential identified in
24 the industry credential resource book or in the industry-based
25 learning guidelines compiled by the department.

26 "International Baccalaureate Diploma Program." An
27 academically challenging two-year precollege diploma program
28 comprised of three core requirements and six academic subject
29 areas with final examinations that prepare students sixteen (16)
30 to nineteen (19) years of age for higher education and life in a

1 global society.

2 "NIMS assessment." An assessment based on the National
3 Institute for Metalworking Skills standards.

4 "NOCTI exam." A National Occupational Competency Testing
5 Institute exam.

6 "Postsecondary course." A course in which a secondary
7 student is enrolled and, upon successful completion,
8 postsecondary credit is earned.

9 "Preapprenticeship program." An apprenticeship program
10 registered with the Pennsylvania Apprenticeship and Training
11 Council.

12 "SAT." A standardized test for the assessment of college
13 readiness administered by the College Board.

14 "SAT Subject Test." A standardized test for the assessment
15 of a specific content area administered by the College Board.

16 "School entity." A school district, intermediate unit, area
17 career and technical school, charter school, cyber charter
18 school, regional charter school or multiple charter school
19 organization.

20 "Secretary." The Secretary of Education of the Commonwealth.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.