

As Introduced

**133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
2019-2020**

H. B. No. 9

Representatives Jones, Sweeney

A BILL

To amend section 3333.16 and to enact sections 1
3345.351 and 3345.481 of the Revised Code with 2
regard to student degree completion at state 3
institutions of higher education and to 4
establish a universal standard for general 5
education courses required by state 6
universities. 7

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

Section 1. That section 3333.16 be amended and sections 8
3345.351 and 3345.481 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 9
follows: 10

Sec. 3333.16. (A) As used in this section ~~"state":~~ 11

(1) "State institution of higher education" means an 12
institution of higher education as defined in section 3345.12 of 13
the Revised Code. 14

(2) "State university" has the same meaning as in section 15
3345.011 of the Revised Code. 16

~~(A)~~ (B) The chancellor of higher education shall do all of 17
the following: 18

(1) Establish policies and procedures applicable to all 19
state institutions of higher education that ensure that students 20
can begin higher education at any state institution of higher 21
education and transfer coursework and degrees to any other state 22
institution of higher education without unnecessary duplication 23
or institutional barriers. The purpose of this requirement is to 24
allow students to attain their highest educational aspirations 25
in the most efficient and effective manner for the students and 26
the state. These policies and procedures shall require state 27
institutions of higher education to make changes or 28
modifications, as needed, to strengthen course content so as to 29
ensure equivalency for that course at any state institution of 30
higher education. 31

(2) Develop and implement a universal course equivalency 32
classification system for state institutions of higher education 33
so that the transfer of students and the transfer and 34
articulation of equivalent courses or specified learning modules 35
or units completed by students are not inhibited by inconsistent 36
judgment about the application of transfer credits. Coursework 37
completed within such a system at one state institution of 38
higher education and transferred to another institution shall be 39
applied to the student's degree objective in the same manner as 40
equivalent coursework completed at the receiving institution. 41

(3) Not later than one year after the effective date of 42
this amendment, and in consultation with the presidents of the 43
state universities, develop a system that establishes a standard 44
for general education courses that each state university 45
requires all of its students to successfully complete. 46

Not later than one year after the chancellor develops the 47
standard for general education courses, each state university 48

shall comply with the standard and accept and grant credit for 49
general education courses that comply with the standard and are 50
successfully completed by a student who transfers from another 51
state university. 52

(4) Develop a system of transfer policies that ensure that 53
graduates with associate degrees which include completion of 54
approved transfer modules shall be admitted to a state 55
institution of higher education, shall be able to compete for 56
admission to specific programs on the same basis as students 57
native to the institution, and shall have priority over out-of- 58
state associate degree graduates and transfer students. To 59
assist a student in advising and transferring, all state 60
institutions of higher education shall fully implement the 61
information system for advising and transferring selected by, 62
contracted for, or developed by the chancellor. 63

~~(4)~~ (5) Examine the feasibility of developing a transfer 64
marketing agenda that includes materials and interactive 65
technology to inform the citizens of Ohio about the availability 66
of transfer options at state institutions of higher education 67
and to encourage adults to return to colleges and universities 68
for additional education; 69

~~(5)~~ (6) Study, in consultation with the state board of 70
career colleges and schools, and in light of existing criteria 71
and any other criteria developed by the articulation and 72
transfer advisory council, the feasibility of credit recognition 73
and transferability to state institutions of higher education 74
for graduates who have received associate degrees from a career 75
college or school with a certificate of registration from the 76
state board of career colleges and schools under Chapter 3332. 77
of the Revised Code. 78

~~(B)~~ (C) All provisions of the existing articulation and transfer policy developed by the chancellor shall remain in effect except where amended by this section.

~~(C)~~ (D) Not later than December 1, 2018, the chancellor shall update and implement the policies and procedures established pursuant to this section to ensure that any associate degree offered at a state institution of higher education may be transferred and applied to a bachelor degree program in an equivalent field at any other state institution of higher education without unnecessary duplication or institutional barriers. The policies and procedures shall ensure that each transferred associate degree applies to the student's degree objective in the same manner as equivalent coursework completed by the student at the receiving institution.

When updating and implementing the policies and procedures pursuant to this division, the chancellor shall seek input from faculty and academic leaders in each academic field or discipline.

Sec. 3345.351. (A) As used in this section, "state university" has the same meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code.

(B) Beginning two years after the effective date of this section, and every two years thereafter, each state university shall review the university's student records to identify students who have been disenrolled from the university for four or more semesters and who have not completed a baccalaureate degree.

(C) Each state university shall determine if each student identified in the review is eligible for an associate degree or

program certificate from that university or another institution 108
of higher education. If a student identified in the review is 109
determined to be eligible for an associate degree or program 110
certificate, the state university shall inform the student of 111
such potential eligibility. 112

(D) Each state university shall report the findings of 113
each review conducted under this section to the chancellor of 114
higher education. 115

(E) The chancellor shall adopt rules as necessary to 116
implement this section. 117

Sec. 3345.481. (A) As used in this section: 118

(1) "Eligible student" means an undergraduate student 119
enrolled in a bachelor's degree program at a state institution 120
of higher education. 121

(2) "Final year" means the last academic year of full-time 122
study that a bachelor's degree program is typically designed to 123
require, as determined by the chancellor of higher education. 124

(3) "State institution of higher education" has the same 125
meaning as in section 3345.011 of the Revised Code. 126

(B) The board of trustees of a state institution of higher 127
education shall waive an eligible student's general and 128
instructional fees for a course necessary to complete the 129
student's bachelor's degree program if all of the following 130
apply: 131

(1) The necessary course is not a general elective. 132

(2) The eligible student was enrolled full time, as 133
defined by the chancellor, in the student's final year. 134

(3) The eligible student was unable to register for the 135
necessary course in the student's final year because of either 136
of the following: 137

(a) The course was not offered by the state institution of 138
higher education in the eligible student's final year. 139

(b) Circumstances beyond the eligible student's control 140
made registration for the necessary course unfeasible, as 141
determined by the chancellor. 142

(4) The eligible student successfully paid all general and 143
instructional fees for the courses for which the student 144
registered in the student's final year at the start of that 145
year. 146

(5) The eligible student successfully registers for the 147
necessary course in the academic year immediately following the 148
student's final year. 149

(C) Qualifying for a waiver of fees under division (B) of 150
this section shall not grant an eligible student guaranteed or 151
priority registration for the necessary course described in that 152
division. 153

(D) The chancellor shall establish rules to implement this 154
section. 155

Section 2. That existing section 3333.16 of the Revised 156
Code is hereby repealed. 157