



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

***Raised Bill No. 427***

LCO No. 2621



Referred to Committee on HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT

Introduced by:  
(HED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-221w of the 2026 supplement to the general  
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  
3 (*Effective July 1, 2026*):

4 (a) As used in this section:

5 (1) "Advanced course or program" means an honors class, advanced  
6 placement class, International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge  
7 International program, dual enrollment, dual credit, early college or any  
8 other advanced or accelerated course or program offered by a local or  
9 regional board of education in grades nine to twelve, inclusive; and

10 (2) "Prior academic performance" means the course or courses that a  
11 student has taken, the grades received for such course or courses and a  
12 student's grade point average.

13 (b) Not later than July 1, 2022, each local and regional board of

14 education shall adopt a policy, or revise an existing policy, concerning  
15 the eligibility criteria for student enrollment in an advanced course or  
16 program. Such policy shall provide for multiple methods by which a  
17 student may satisfy the eligibility criteria for enrollment in an advanced  
18 course or program, including, but not limited to, recommendations  
19 from teachers, administrators, school counselors or other school  
20 personnel. Such eligibility criteria shall not be based exclusively on a  
21 student's prior academic performance and any use of a student's prior  
22 academic performance shall rely on evidence-based indicators of how a  
23 student will perform in an advanced course or program.

24 (c) Any policy adopted or revised and implemented under this  
25 section shall be in accordance with guidance provided by the  
26 Department of Education.

27 (d) (1) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Education  
28 shall, in partnership with the constituent units of the state system of  
29 higher education and independent institutions of higher education, as  
30 defined in section 10a-173, develop a model agreement between  
31 secondary schools and postsecondary institutions for the provision of  
32 dual enrollment courses and concurrent enrollment courses, as such  
33 terms are defined in section 10a-35d, and postsecondary credit courses  
34 to students in grades nine to twelve, inclusive.

35 (2) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Commissioner of Education  
36 shall appoint a dual enrollment program coordinator to track the  
37 establishment of such programs throughout the state and student  
38 outcomes from such programs, including, but not limited to, completion  
39 rates and average grades, by school district.

40 (e) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year  
41 thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall, within available  
42 appropriations, establish a fee-waiver grant program to expand  
43 opportunities for high-need high school students to access advanced  
44 courses or programs. A local or regional board of education may apply,

45 in a form and manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Education, for  
46 reimbursement for any fees charged to such board for any high-need  
47 student who enrolls in an advanced course or program.

48 (f) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year  
49 thereafter, the Commissioner of Education may, within available  
50 appropriations, pay up to five hundred thousand dollars in a fiscal year  
51 to the State Education Resource Center for programming that provides  
52 direct support to local and regional boards of education in the  
53 articulation and expansion of dual credit courses. In expending such  
54 funds under this subsection, the State Education Resource Center shall  
55 give priority to providing funds to alliance districts.

56 (g) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, and each fiscal year  
57 thereafter, the Commissioner of Education shall, within available  
58 appropriations, establish a need-based dual enrollment scholarship  
59 program to reimburse parents of students enrolled in a dual enrollment  
60 program who incurred an enrollment or tuition cost for such program  
61 and have financial need, as determined by the commissioner. The  
62 commissioner shall post the eligibility criteria and application form for  
63 such scholarship in a conspicuous place on the Department of  
64 Education's Internet web site and the dual enrollment program  
65 coordinator shall notify each local and regional board of education  
66 about the dual enrollment scholarship program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2026	10-221w

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the Department of Education to appoint a dual enrollment coordinator to track state-wide dual enrollment programs and to provide scholarships to students required to pay tuition costs for dual enrollment programs.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*