

Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 10-0697.01 Julie Pelegrin

SENATE BILL 10-108

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL EDUCATION CORE
102 COURSES AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Current law requires the Colorado commission on higher education (commission) to define a process whereby students enrolled in public institutions of higher education may test out of core courses and receive credit for those courses without paying tuition. The bill requires the commission to put this process in place for use beginning in the 2010-11

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

academic year.

The bill allows a nonpublic institution of higher education (nonpublic institution) to choose to participate in the core course guidelines. Also, for a fee, a nonpublic institution may request the department of higher education (department) to review the nonpublic institution's core courses and include them in the matrix of core courses for which credit may transfer from one institution of higher education to another. A nonpublic institution that includes its courses in the matrix will also be included in the statewide transfer agreements for core course credits. The commission will set the amount of the fee to reflect the department's costs in reviewing the courses.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** 23-1-125 (4), Colorado Revised Statutes, is
3 amended, and the said 23-1-125 is further amended BY THE ADDITION
4 OF A NEW SUBSECTION, to read:

5 **23-1-125. Commission directive - student bill of rights - degree**
6 **requirements - implementation of core courses - competency test.**

7 (4) **Competency testing.** ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2010, the commission
8 shall, in consultation with each public institution of higher education,
9 define a process for students to test out of core courses, including
10 specifying use of a national test or the criteria for approving
11 institutionally devised tests. BEGINNING IN THE 2010-11 ACADEMIC YEAR,
12 EACH PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL GRANT FULL
13 COURSE CREDITS TO students ~~shall be granted credit~~ for the core courses
14 they successfully test out of, free of tuition for those courses.

15 (5) **Nonpublic institutions of higher education.** (a) A
16 NONPUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AS DEFINED IN SECTION
17 23-3.7-102 (3), MAY CHOOSE TO CONFORM ITS CORE COURSES TO THE
18 GUIDELINES DEVELOPED BY THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION
19 (3) OF THIS SECTION. IN ADDITION, UPON REQUEST OF A NONPUBLIC

1 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND PAYMENT OF A FEE, THE
2 DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE CORE COURSES THAT THE NONPUBLIC
3 INSTITUTION IDENTIFIES AS MEETING THE GENERAL EDUCATION COURSE
4 GUIDELINES AND INCLUDE THEM IN THE MATRIX DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO
5 SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION. A NONPUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER
6 EDUCATION THAT CONFORMS ITS CORE COURSES TO THE GUIDELINES AS
7 PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION (5) AND WHOSE COURSES ARE INCLUDED IN
8 THE MATRIX SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE STATEWIDE AGREEMENTS FOR
9 TRANSFERABILITY OF CORE COURSE CREDITS.

10 (b) THE COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT,
11 SHALL ESTABLISH THE AMOUNT OF THE FEE FOR REVIEW OF A NONPUBLIC
12 INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION'S COURSES, WHICH AMOUNT SHALL
13 NOT EXCEED THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT COSTS INCURRED BY THE
14 DEPARTMENT IN REVIEWING THE NONPUBLIC INSTITUTION'S CORE COURSES
15 AND INCLUDING THEM IN THE MATRIX. THE DEPARTMENT IS AUTHORIZED
16 TO COLLECT THE FEE FROM NONPUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER
17 EDUCATION AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (a) OF THIS SUBSECTION (5).

18 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
19 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
20 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.