

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Dual
5 Credit Quality Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. In this Act:

7 "Dual credit course" means a college course taken by a high
8 school student for credit at both the college and high school
9 level.

10 "Institution" means an "institution of higher learning" as
11 defined in the Higher Education Student Assistance Act.

12 Section 10. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to
13 accomplish all of the following:

14 (1) To reduce college costs.

15 (2) To speed time to degree completion.

16 (3) To improve the curriculum for high school students
17 and the alignment of the curriculum with college and
18 workplace expectations.

19 (4) To facilitate the transition between high school
20 and college.

21 (5) To enhance communication between high schools and
22 colleges.

1 (6) To offer opportunities for improving degree
2 attainment for underserved student populations.

3 Section 15. Student access, eligibility, and attainment.

4 (a) The Illinois Community College Board and the Board of
5 Higher Education shall develop policies to permit multiple
6 appropriate measures using differentiated assessment for
7 granting eligibility for dual credit to students. The measures
8 developed shall ensure that a student is prepared for any
9 coursework in which the student enrolls.

10 (b) Institutions may adopt policies to protect the academic
11 standing of students who are not successful in dual credit
12 courses, including, but not limited to, options for (i) late
13 withdrawal from a course, or (ii) taking the course on a
14 pass-fail basis, or both. All institutional policies relating
15 to the academic standing of students enrolled in dual credit
16 courses or the transfer of credit for dual credit courses must
17 be made publicly available by the institution and provided to
18 each student enrolled in dual credit courses offered by that
19 institution.

20 Section 20. Standards. All institutions offering dual
21 credit courses shall meet the following standards:

22 (1) Instructors teaching credit-bearing college-level
23 courses for dual credit must meet the same academic
24 credential requirements as faculty teaching on campus and

1 need not meet certification requirements set out in Article
2 21 of the School Code.

3 (2) Instructors in career and technical education
4 courses must possess the credentials and demonstrated
5 teaching competencies appropriate to the field of
6 instruction.

7 (3) Students must meet the same academic criteria as
8 those enrolled in credit-bearing college courses,
9 including taking appropriate placement testing.

10 (4) Course content must be the same as that required
11 for credit-bearing college courses.

12 (5) Learning outcomes must be the same as for
13 credit-bearing college courses and be appropriately
14 measured.

15 (6) Institutions shall provide high school instructors
16 with an orientation in course curriculum, assessment
17 methods, and administrative requirements before high
18 school instructors are permitted to teach dual credit
19 courses.

20 (7) Dual credit instructors must be given the
21 opportunity to participate in all activities available to
22 other adjunct faculty, including professional development,
23 seminars, site visits, and internal communication,
24 provided that such opportunities do not interfere with an
25 instructor's regular teaching duties.

26 (8) Every dual credit course must be reviewed annually

1 by faculty through the appropriate department to ensure
2 consistency with campus courses.

3 (9) Dual credit students must be assessed using methods
4 consistent with students in traditional credit-bearing
5 college courses.

6 Section 25. Oversight, review, and reporting.

7 (a) The Illinois Community College Board shall be
8 responsible for oversight and review of dual credit programs
9 offered jointly by public community colleges and high schools.
10 The Illinois Community College Board shall implement a review
11 process and criteria for evaluating dual credit program quality
12 based upon the standards enumerated in Section 20 of this Act.

13 (b) The Board of Higher Education shall be responsible for
14 oversight and review of dual credit programs offered jointly by
15 high schools and institutions, except for public community
16 colleges as provided in subsection (a) of this Section. The
17 Board of Higher Education shall develop and implement a review
18 process based on the standards enumerated in Section 20 of this
19 Act.

20 (c) Each institution shall report annually to the
21 appropriate agency, the Illinois Community College Board or the
22 Board of Higher Education. The reports shall include, but not
23 be limited to, the following data:

24 (1) Number and description of dual credit courses.

25 (2) Faculty teaching dual credit courses and their

1 academic credentials.

2 (3) Enrollments in dual credit courses.

3 (4) Sites of dual credit offerings.

4 Section 30. Accountability.

5 (a) The State Board of Education, the Illinois Community
6 College Board, and the Board of Higher Education shall include
7 information regarding student participation and performance in
8 dual credit programs and their success in postsecondary
9 education in a statewide longitudinal data system.

10 (b) The data system shall track dual credit students and
11 courses on student records.

12 (c) Analysis of data relating to student success in dual
13 credit courses as well as performance in postsecondary
14 education must be incorporated into the evaluation of dual
15 credit programs in both high school and college.