

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0417.02 Jacob Baus x2173

HOUSE BILL 24-1305

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Lindstedt and Lukens,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Baisley, Buckner

House Committees
Education

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING CHANGES TO PROGRAMS TO BENEFIT STUDENTS WHO
102 EARN POSTSECONDARY COURSE CREDIT WHILE ENROLLED IN
103 HIGH SCHOOL.

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://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill expands the types of programs a pathways in technology early college high school (p-tech school) may focus on beyond science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Under current law, the college opportunity fund program provides a stipend for eligible undergraduate students in Colorado. Generally, an

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

eligible undergraduate student is ineligible to receive a stipend for more than 145 credit hours during the student's lifetime. The bill makes an exception to this lifetime limitation for college-level credit hours earned while the eligible undergraduate student was enrolled in a concurrent enrollment program, the accelerating students through concurrent enrollment program, the teacher recruitment education and preparation program, or a p-tech school.

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

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) The pathways in technology early college high school,
5 commonly referred to as a p-tech school or program, model has proven
6 successful in fostering collaborations between kindergarten through
7 twelfth grade schools, higher education, and industry partners to deliver
8 a free associate degree to students upon high school graduation;

9 (b) The success of the p-tech schools and programs in Colorado
10 is evident with the establishment of twenty different programs across
11 Colorado school districts, in both rural and urban school districts; and

12 (c) To ensure continued success, it is important that p-tech schools
13 and programs evolve by creating greater flexibility within the p-tech
14 model.

15 (2) Therefore, the general assembly finds it prudent and necessary
16 to update the p-tech model to ensure students have the ability to pursue
17 a focus beyond science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, and
18 to be rewarded for valuable higher education achievement during high
19 school.

20 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-35.3-103, **amend**
21 (1) as follows:

22 **22-35.3-103. Pathways in technology early college high schools**

1 **- design - requirements - approval.** (1) A pathways in technology early
2 college high school, or p-tech school, is a public school that includes
3 grades nine through fourteen and is designed to prepare students for
4 high-potential careers in industry by enabling them to graduate with a
5 high school diploma and an industry-recognized associate degree.
6 Students in a p-tech school may also earn pre-apprenticeship certificates
7 and other industry-recognized certificates in addition to an associate
8 degree. A p-tech school is operated as a collaborative effort by a local
9 education provider, a community college, and one or more local
10 high-growth industry employers. Throughout grades nine through
11 fourteen, a p-tech school integrates high school and college courses and
12 certificate programs that are informed by current and projected industry
13 standards ~~and focused on science, technology, engineering, and~~
14 ~~mathematics~~ with mentoring, job shadowing, internships,
15 pre-apprenticeship training, and other workplace education experiences.

16 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-18-202, **amend**
17 (5)(c)(III) as follows:

18 **23-18-202. College opportunity fund - appropriations -**
19 **payment of stipends - reimbursement - report.** (5) (c) (III) For an
20 eligible undergraduate student who has completed one or more college
21 courses while enrolled in high school pursuant to the "Concurrent
22 Enrollment Programs Act", article 35 of title 22, or while designated as
23 an ASCENT program participant pursuant to section 22-35-108 or as a
24 TREP program participant pursuant to section 22-35-108.5, or while
25 enrolled in a pathways in technology early college high school pursuant
26 to article 35.3 of title 22, all college-level credit hours earned by the
27 student while so enrolled DO NOT count against the lifetime limitation

1 described in subsection (5)(c)(I) of this section. ~~except that credit hours~~
2 ~~earned from enrollment in a developmental education course, as defined~~
3 ~~in section 23-1-113 (11)(b), do not count against the lifetime limitation.~~

4 **SECTION 4. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
5 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
6 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
7 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
8 institutions.