

## CHAPTER 297

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**EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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## SENATE BILL 17-272

BY SENATOR(S) Priola, Kefalas, Kerr, Martinez Humenik, Moreno, Smallwood, Tate;  
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Pettersen and Lundeen, Carver, Covarrubias, Danielson, Exum, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod,  
Hooton, Kraft-Tharp, Lee, Lontine, McLachlan, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Salazar, Sias, Van Winkle, Wilson, Young, Duran.

**AN ACT****CONCERNING ADDING A MEASURE RELATING TO DEMONSTRATION OF COLLEGE AND CAREER  
READINESS FOR DETERMINING A LOCAL EDUCATION PROVIDER'S ATTAINMENT OF THE  
POSTSECONDARY AND WORKFORCE READINESS PERFORMANCE INDICATOR.**

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

**SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly finds that:

(a) Measures for the postsecondary and workforce readiness performance indicator were originally adopted as part of the "Education Accountability Act of 2009", article 11 of title 22. The measures took into account the data available at the time for determining whether public high schools, school districts, and the state charter school institute were successfully graduating students who were prepared for postsecondary education or to enter the workforce.

(b) Since 2009, the state board of education, as required by statute, has adopted high school graduation guidelines. School districts and district and institute charter high schools are required to adopt local high school graduation requirements that meet or exceed the state guidelines and implement these requirements beginning in the fall of 2017 for the graduating class of 2021.

(c) The state high school graduation guidelines include a list of performance demonstrations that high school graduates may complete to demonstrate that they are academically ready for college and career. Each school district and each district or institute charter high school must select from this list those demonstrations that its students must successfully complete in order to graduate from high school. Thus, the performance of the school district or charter high school in enabling students to successfully complete the demonstrations will be reflected in the school district's

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*Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.*

and the state charter school institute's overall graduation rate and in the individual graduation rates of the public schools of the school district and the institute charter high schools.

(d) Many of the options for demonstrating college and career readiness, such as successfully completing advanced placement or international baccalaureate assessments or successfully enrolling in postsecondary courses through concurrent enrollment, empower students to demonstrate that they are working toward goals beyond high school graduation, often leading to higher levels of academic achievement while they are enrolled in high school and when they subsequently enroll in postsecondary education;

(e) As adopted by the state board, the standards of achievement for the college and career readiness demonstrations reflect readiness for some levels of postsecondary enrollment, but they do not demonstrate that a student is prepared, without needing remediation, to enroll in the postsecondary general education core courses in reading, writing, and mathematics identified pursuant to section 23-1-125 (3);

(f) A student's level of achievement of some of the demonstration options may be measured objectively by a score. For those demonstration options, the state board of education should adopt both minimum achievement standards and higher achievement standards that indicate a student is prepared, without needing remediation, to enroll in the postsecondary general education core courses in reading, writing, and mathematics identified pursuant to section 23-1-125 (3). These higher achievement standards will enable the state to give a public high school, a school district, and the state charter school institute additional performance credit based on the number of high school students who successfully demonstrate that they are prepared to enroll in these postsecondary general education courses without need for remediation.

(g) Enrolling in and receiving college-level credit for the postsecondary general education core courses in reading, writing, and mathematics identified pursuant to section 23-1-125 (3) while a student is in high school also clearly demonstrates that a student is college- and career-ready before high school graduation. It is appropriate that each public high school, each school district, and the state charter school institute receive additional performance credit for the percentage of high school students who achieve this level of preparation before high school graduation.

(2) The general assembly finds, therefore, that it is appropriate to adopt additional measures for the postsecondary and workforce readiness performance indicator to determine the degree to which public high schools, school districts, and the state charter school institute enable high school students to successfully demonstrate that they are ready for college and career and the extent to which the public high schools, school districts, and the state charter school institute encourage high school students to enroll in, and prepare them to successfully complete, postsecondary core courses in reading, writing, and mathematics.

**SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-103, **amend** the introductory portion; and **add** (6.5), (9.5), (10.5), and (13.5) as follows:

**22-11-103. Definitions.** As used in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 11, unless the context otherwise requires:

(6.5) "CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSE" MEANS A POSTSECONDARY COURSE THAT, UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION, RESULTS IN POSTSECONDARY COURSE CREDIT TOWARD A CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION CREDENTIAL OR ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN APPLIED SCIENCE.

(9.5) "CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT" MEANS THAT A STUDENT, WHILE ENROLLED IN HIGH SCHOOL, ENROLLS IN POSTSECONDARY COURSES AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 35 OF THIS TITLE 22.

(10.5) "DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS" MEANS THE METHODS BY WHICH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MAY DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS AS RECOMMENDED IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION GUIDELINES ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-106 (1)(a.5) AND AS SPECIFICALLY SELECTED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN WHICH A STUDENT IS ENROLLED OR BY THE DISTRICT CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL OR INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL IN WHICH A STUDENT IS ENROLLED.

(13.5) "GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES" MEANS THE POSTSECONDARY GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES IN READING, WRITING, AND MATHEMATICS IDENTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 23-1-125 (3).

**SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 22-11-104 as follows:

**22-11-104. Rules - college and career readiness achievement standards.**

(1) The state board shall promulgate rules pursuant to the "State Administrative Procedure Act", article 4 of title 24, ~~C.R.S.~~, as required in this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 11 and may promulgate such additional rules as it finds necessary for the implementation of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 11, including but not limited to rules establishing a numbering system to uniquely identify individual students, including students enrolled in the Colorado preschool program created pursuant to section 22-28-104.

(2) (a) FOR EACH OF THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS BY WHICH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MAY DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE STATE BOARD IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION GUIDELINES ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 22-2-106 (1)(a.5), THE STATE BOARD SHALL ADOPT ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS THAT INDICATE THAT A STUDENT HAS DEMONSTRATED A LEVEL OF COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS SUFFICIENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION AND HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS THAT INDICATE THAT A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES. AT A MINIMUM, THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT STANDARDS MUST INCLUDE:

(I) SPECIFIED, HIGHER SCORES ON THE ASSESSMENTS INCLUDED IN THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS, WHICH SCORES INDICATE A STUDENT IS PREPARED TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES WITHOUT NEED FOR REMEDIATION; AND

(II) RECEIPT OF COLLEGE COURSE CREDITS FOR CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT IN CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION COURSES OR GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES OR HIGHER-LEVEL COURSES.

(b) SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT AFFECT THE AUTHORITY OF THE COLORADO COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND GOVERNING BOARDS OF THE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT THE ACADEMIC ADMISSION STANDARDS FOR STUDENTS FOR ALL STATE-SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING A STUDENT'S NEED FOR BASIC SKILLS COURSES AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 23-1-113.

**SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-204, **amend** (4)(a)(III), (4)(b)(III), (4)(c)(III), (5)(a)(I)(F), (5)(b)(I)(F), and (5)(c)(I)(F); and **add** (4)(a)(V), (4)(b)(V), and (4)(c)(V) as follows:

**22-11-204. Performance indicators - measures.** (4) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public high school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the postsecondary and workforce readiness indicator by using, at a minimum, the following measures:

(a) For each public high school, the department shall calculate:

(III) The graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board; ~~and~~

(V) BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

(b) For each school district and the institute, the department shall calculate:

(III) The overall graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board, for the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools; ~~and~~

(V) BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE DISTRICT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OR ALL OF THE INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS OFFERED BY THE DISTRICT CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS, THE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR THE INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

(c) For the state, the department shall calculate:

(III) The statewide graduation and dropout rates, as defined by rule of the state board, for the public high schools in the state; ~~and~~

(V) BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS STATEWIDE WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EACH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

(5) The department shall determine the level of attainment of each public school, each school district, the institute, and the state as a whole on the performance indicator that concerns the progress made in closing the achievement and growth gaps by using the following measures:

(a) (I) For each public school, the department shall disaggregate by student group:

(F) For each public high school, the percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the public high school who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high school who score at each achievement level on the assessments administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 by the public high school; the percentages of students graduating from the public high school who receive a diploma that includes a postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsement or an endorsement for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; the graduation and dropout rates; ~~and~~, beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the percentages of students graduating from the public high school who, in the school year immediately following graduation from high school, enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or four-year institution of higher education; AND, BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

(b) (I) For each school district and the institute, the department shall disaggregate by student group:

(F) The overall percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools who score at each achievement level on the assessments administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 by the public high schools; the overall percentages of students graduating from the district public high schools, or the institute charter high schools, who receive a diploma that includes a postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsement or an endorsement for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; the overall graduation and dropout rates for the district public high schools or the institute charter high schools; ~~and~~, beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the overall percentages of students graduating from the district public high schools or the

institute charter high schools who, in the school year immediately following graduation from high school, enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or four-year institution of higher education; AND, BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE DISTRICT PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OR INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOLS WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS ADOPTED BY THE DISTRICT CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, SCHOOL DISTRICT, OR INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

(c) (I) For the state, the department shall disaggregate by student group:

(F) The percentage of students enrolled in the eleventh grade in the public high schools in the state who score at each achievement level of the standardized, curriculum-based, achievement, college entrance examination or the percentages of students enrolled in each of the grade levels included in the public high schools in the state who score at each achievement level on the assessments administered pursuant to section 22-7-1006.3 by the public high schools; the overall percentages of students graduating from the public high schools in the state who receive diplomas that include postsecondary and workforce readiness endorsements or endorsements for exemplary demonstration of postsecondary and workforce readiness; the overall graduation and dropout rates for the public high schools in the state; ~~and~~, beginning in the 2016-17 school year, the percentages of students graduating from the public high schools in the state who, in the school year immediately following graduation from high school, enroll in a career and technical education program, community college, or four-year institution of higher education; AND, BEGINNING IN THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR, THE OVERALL PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OF THE STATE WHO DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS, BASED ON THE DEMONSTRATION OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EACH PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, AT THE HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVEL ADOPTED BY THE STATE BOARD THAT INDICATES A STUDENT IS PREPARED, WITHOUT NEEDING REMEDIATION, TO ENROLL IN GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES.

**SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 22-11-504, **amend** (1)(c), (1)(d), (2)(c), and (2)(d); and **add** (1)(e) and (2)(e) as follows:

**22-11-504. School district and institute reporting requirements.** (1) Each school district shall annually report to the department for each of the district public schools:

(c) The accreditation category, with supporting data, for each district public school; ~~and~~

(d) ~~Any additional information required for the department to implement the accreditation process described in part 2 of this article.~~ THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD, AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 22-32-109 (1)(kk), AND BY EACH DISTRICT CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE OPTIONS ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD AND EACH DISTRICT CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BY WHICH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MAY

DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS; AND

(e) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS DESCRIBED IN PART 2 OF THIS ARTICLE 11.

(2) The institute shall annually report to the department for each institute charter school:

(c) The accreditation category, with supporting data, for each institute charter school; ~~and~~

(d) ~~Any additional information required by the accreditation process described in part 2 of this article.~~ THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS ADOPTED BY EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL, INCLUDING THE OPTIONS ADOPTED BY EACH INSTITUTE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL BY WHICH A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MAY DEMONSTRATE COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS; AND

(e) ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THE ACCREDITATION PROCESS DESCRIBED IN PART 2 OF THIS ARTICLE 11.

**SECTION 6. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

Approved: June 2, 2017