

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29

SECONDARY SCHOOL AMENDMENTS

2006 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: D. Chris Buttars

House Sponsor: Margaret Dayton

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill establishes requirements for the acceptance of credits awarded by schools and the Electronic High School and establishes requirements for the Electronic High School.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ requires a public school to:
 - accept credits and grades awarded to students by certain accredited schools; and
 - accept credits for both transfer students and students enrolled in the school who take courses offered by other public or private schools;
- ▶ requires the Electronic High School to offer:
 - courses in an open entry/open exit format; and
 - core curriculum courses that conform to course standards and objectives established by the board;
- ▶ requires public schools and school districts to:
 - accept all credits earned through the Electronic High School; and
 - apply credits awarded for a core curriculum course toward fulfillment of core curriculum requirements;
- ▶ establishes eligibility requirements for enrollment in the Electronic High School and for the award of diplomas by the Electronic High School;
- ▶ provides that Utah students may take Electronic High School courses free of charge and nonresidents may take courses for a fee set by the State Board of Education;

- 30 ▶ provides that students with disabilities seeking to enroll in the Utah Electronic High
- 31 School may request appropriate accommodations; and
- 32 ▶ defines terms.

33 **Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

34 None

35 **Other Special Clauses:**

36 None

37 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

38 ENACTS:

- 39 **53A-13-108.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 40 **53A-15-1001**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 41 **53A-15-1002**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 42 **53A-15-1003**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 43 **53A-15-1004**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 44 **53A-15-1005**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 45 **53A-15-1006**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 46 **53A-15-1007**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



48 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

49 Section 1. Section **53A-13-108.5** is enacted to read:

50 **53A-13-108.5. Acceptance of credits and grades awarded by accredited schools.**

51 (1) (a) A public school shall accept credits and grades awarded to a student by a school
52 accredited or approved by the State Board of Education or accredited or recognized by the
53 Northwest Association of Accredited Schools as issued by the school, without alterations.

54 (b) Credits awarded for a core curriculum course shall be applied to fulfilling core
55 curriculum requirements.

56 (2) Subsection (1) applies to credits awarded to a student who:

57 (a) transfers to a public school; or

58 (b) while enrolled in the public school, takes courses offered by another public or
59 private school.

60 (3) Subsection (1) applies to:

61 (a) traditional classes in which an instructor is present in the classroom and the student
62 is required to attend the class for a particular length of time;

63 (b) open entry/open exit classes in which the student has the flexibility to begin or end
64 study at any time, progress through course material at his own pace, and demonstrate
65 competency when knowledge and skills have been mastered;

66 (c) courses offered over the Internet; or

67 (d) distance learning courses.

68 Section 2. Section **53A-15-1001** is enacted to read:

69 **Part 10. Electronic High School Act**

70 **53A-15-1001. Title.**

71 This part is known as the "Electronic High School Act."

72 Section 3. Section **53A-15-1002** is enacted to read:

73 **53A-15-1002. Definitions.**

74 As used in this part:

75 (1) "Board" means the State Board of Education.

76 (2) "Electronic High School" means a rigorous program offering grade 9 - 12 level
77 courses delivered over the Internet and coordinated by the board.

78 (3) "Home-schooled student" means a student:

79 (a) who attends a home school;

80 (b) is exempt from school attendance pursuant to Section 53A-11-102; and

81 (c) attends no more than two regularly scheduled classes or courses in a public school
82 per semester.

83 (4) "Open-entry, open-exit" means:

84 (a) a method of instructional delivery that allows for flexible scheduling in response to
85 individual student needs or requirements and demonstrated competency when knowledge and

86 skills have been mastered; and

87 (b) students have the flexibility to begin or end study at any time, progress through
88 course material at their own pace, and demonstrate competency when knowledge and skills
89 have been mastered.

90 Section 4. Section **53A-15-1003** is enacted to read:

91 **53A-15-1003. Courses and credit.**

92 (1) The Electronic High School shall:

93 (a) offer courses in an open-entry, open-exit format; and

94 (b) offer core curriculum courses that are in conformance with course standards and
95 objectives established by the board.

96 (2) Public schools shall:

97 (a) accept all credits awarded to students by the Electronic High School; and

98 (b) apply credits awarded for a core curriculum course toward the fulfillment of core
99 curriculum requirements.

100 Section 5. Section **53A-15-1004** is enacted to read:

101 **53A-15-1004. Student eligibility for enrollment.**

102 (1) Utah students at any age or in any grade may enroll in Electronic High School
103 courses.

104 (2) The Electronic High School shall accept students into courses on a first-come
105 first-served basis.

106 Section 6. Section **53A-15-1005** is enacted to read:

107 **53A-15-1005. Services to students with disabilities.**

108 Students with disabilities who may need additional services or resources and who seek
109 to enroll in Electronic High School classes may request appropriate accommodations through
110 the students' assigned schools or school districts.

111 Section 7. Section **53A-15-1006** is enacted to read:

112 **53A-15-1006. Student fees or tuition.**

113 (1) Electronic High School courses are provided to students who are Utah residents, as

114 defined in Section 53A-2-201, free of charge.

115 (2) Nonresident students may enroll in Electronic High School courses for a fee set by
116 the board, provided that the course can accommodate additional students.

117 Section 8. Section **53A-15-1007** is enacted to read:

118 **53A-15-1007. Electronic High School diploma.**

119 The Electronic High School may award a diploma to a student that meets any of the
120 following criteria upon the student's completion of high school graduation requirements set by
121 the board:

122 (1) a home-schooled student;

123 (2) a student who has dropped out of school and whose original high school class has
124 graduated; or

125 (3) a student who is identified by the student's resident school district as ineligible for
126 graduation from a traditional high school program for specific reasons.