

**EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOLS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Val L. Peterson**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill distinguishes an early college high school from a regularly authorized charter school.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ exempts an early college high school from certain rules established by the State Board of Education; and
- ▶ provides that a certain amount of weighted pupil units be computed for early college high schools that conduct approved programs in only one technical education area.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**53A-17a-113**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 3

ENACTS:

**53A-1a-1101**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

**53A-1a-1102**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



28 53A-1a-1103, Utah Code Annotated 1953



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

31 Section 1. Section **53A-1a-1101** is enacted to read:

32 **Part 11. Early College High Schools**

33 **53A-1a-1101. Title.**

34 This part is known as "Early College High Schools."

35 Section 2. Section **53A-1a-1102** is enacted to read:

36 **53A-1a-1102. Definitions.**

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

38 (2) "Early college high school" means an authorized charter school that:

39 (a) has a mission to provide an early college education to a diverse student population  
40 emphasizing advanced science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;

41 (b) provides students with the opportunity to earn:

42 (i) a high school diploma; and

43 (ii) (A) up to two years of college credit; or

44 (B) an associate's degree; and

45 (c) contracts with an institution of higher education for instruction offered through the  
46 charter school.

47 (3) "Institution of higher education" means:

48 (a) the University of Utah;

49 (b) Utah State University;

50 (c) Weber State University;

51 (d) Southern Utah University;

52 (e) Snow College;

53 (f) Dixie State University;

54 (g) Utah Valley University; or

55 (h) Salt Lake Community College.

56 Section 3. Section **53A-1a-1103** is enacted to read:

57 **53A-1a-1103. Exemptions from board rule.**

58 (1) An early college high school is:

59 (a) subject to Title 53A, Chapter 1a, Part 5, The Utah Charter Schools Act; and

60 (b) exempt from the 180 school day requirement established by board rule.

61 (2) Up to two and one-half of the subject-specific credit hour graduation requirements

62 established by board rule may be changed to elective credit for a student at an early college

63 high school if:

64 (a) the modification is consistent with the student's:

65 (i) individualized education program; or

66 (ii) student education occupation plan; and

67 (b) the elective credit is earned in a science, technology, engineering, mathematics,

68 advanced placement, concurrent enrollment, or early college course.

69 Section 4. Section 53A-17a-113 is amended to read:

70 **53A-17a-113. Weighted pupil units for career and technical education programs**

71 **-- Funding of approved programs -- Performance measures -- Qualifying criteria.**

72 (1) (a) Money appropriated to the State Board of Education for approved career and  
73 technical education programs and the comprehensive guidance program:

74 (i) shall be allocated to eligible recipients as provided in Subsections (2), (3), (4), and  
75 (5); and

76 (ii) may not be used to fund programs below the ninth grade level.

77 (b) Subsection (1)(a)(ii) does not apply to the following programs:

78 (i) comprehensive guidance;

79 (ii) Technology-Life-Careers; and

80 (iii) work-based learning programs.

81 (2) (a) Weighted pupil units are computed for pupils in approved programs.

82 (b) (i) The board shall fund approved programs based upon hours of membership of  
83 9th through 12th grade students.

84 (ii) Subsection (2)(b)(i) does not apply to the following programs:

85 (A) comprehensive guidance;

86 (B) Technology-Life-Careers; and

87 (C) work-based learning programs.

88 (c) The board shall use an amount not to exceed 20% of the total appropriation under  
89 this section to fund approved programs based on performance measures such as placement and

90 competency attainment defined in standards set by the board.

91 (d) Leadership organization funds shall constitute an amount not to exceed 1% of the  
92 total appropriation under this section, and shall be distributed to each local educational agency  
93 sponsoring career and technical education student leadership organizations based on the  
94 agency's share of the state's total membership in those organizations.

95 (e) The board shall make the necessary calculations for distribution of the  
96 appropriation to school districts and may revise and recommend changes necessary for  
97 achieving equity and ease of administration.

98 (3) (a) Twenty weighted pupil units shall be computed for career and technical  
99 education administrative costs for each district, except 25 weighted pupil units may be  
100 computed for each district that consolidates career and technical education administrative  
101 services with one or more other districts.

102 (b) Between 10 and 25 weighted pupil units shall be computed for each high school  
103 conducting approved career and technical education programs in a district according to  
104 standards established by the board.

105 (c) Forty weighted pupil units shall be computed for each district that operates an  
106 approved career and technical education center.

107 (d) Between five and seven weighted pupil units shall be computed for each summer  
108 career and technical education agriculture program according to standards established by the  
109 board.

110 (e) Ten weighted pupil units shall be computed for an early college high school, as  
111 defined in Section 53A-1a-1102, that conducts approved programs in only one career and  
112 technical education area.

113 [~~e~~] (f) The board shall, by rule, establish qualifying criteria for districts to receive  
114 weighted pupil units under this Subsection (3).

115 (4) (a) Money remaining after the allocations made under Subsections (2) and (3) shall  
116 be allocated using average daily membership in approved programs for the previous year.

117 (b) A district that has experienced student growth in grades 9 through 12 for the  
118 previous year shall have the growth factor applied to the previous year's weighted pupil units  
119 when calculating the allocation of money under this Subsection (4).

120 (5) Of the money allocated to comprehensive guidance programs pursuant to board

- 121 rules, \$1,000,000 in grants shall be awarded to school districts or charter schools that:
- 122       (a) provide an equal amount of matching funds; and
- 123       (b) do not supplant other funds used for comprehensive guidance programs.
- 124       (6) (a) The board shall establish rules for the upgrading of high school career and
- 125 technical education programs.
- 126       (b) The rules shall reflect career and technical training and actual marketable job skills
- 127 in society.
- 128       (c) The rules shall include procedures to assist school districts to convert existing
- 129 programs which are not preparing students for the job market into programs that will
- 130 accomplish that purpose.
- 131       (7) Programs that do not meet board standards may not be funded under this section.

---

---

**Legislative Review Note**  
**as of 1-29-15 12:56 PM**

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**