

REFERENCE TITLE: adult education; workforce development program

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2371

Introduced by
Representative Marshall

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 15-217.03, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO THE
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 15-217.03, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended
3 to read:

4 15-217.03. Community college adult education workforce
5 development program; fund; program schools;
6 student eligibility; annual reports

7 A. The community college adult education workforce development
8 program is established within the state board of education, to be
9 administered by the department of education, to provide adult learners
10 with integrated education and training ~~programs~~ AS DEFINED IN THE
11 WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (P.L. 113-128; 128 STAT. 1425; 29
12 UNITED STATES CODE 3272), OR ITS SUCCESSOR, and additional study and
13 support services, ~~that lead to the issuance of~~ INCLUDING both of the
14 following:

15 1. ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION THAT IS ALIGNED WITH ADULT EDUCATION AND
16 LITERACY ACTIVITIES AS DEFINED IN THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY
17 ACT, OR ITS SUCCESSOR, INCLUDING INSTRUCTION THAT LEADS TO THE ISSUANCE OF
18 a high school diploma or high school equivalency diploma.

19 2. An industry-recognized credential, COMMUNITY COLLEGE CERTIFICATE
20 or community college degree.

21 B. To be eligible to participate in the program, the program
22 applicant must be a community college district that is established
23 pursuant to section 15-1402, that provides high school diplomas or high
24 school equivalency diplomas and that provides workforce training that
25 leads to industry-recognized credentials or workforce or degree programs,
26 including workforce programs accredited by a regional accrediting body
27 recognized by the United States department of education. If a program
28 applicant meets the requirements of this subsection, the department of
29 education shall distribute monies to the program applicant as prescribed
30 in subsection ~~C~~ D of this section.

31 C. A PROGRAM SCHOOL MAY RECEIVE MONIES UNDER SUBSECTION D OF THIS
32 SECTION FOR EACH ADULT LEARNER WHO IS A STUDENT IN THE PROGRAM, REGARDLESS
33 OF WHETHER THE ADULT LEARNER HAS A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR HIGH SCHOOL
34 EQUIVALENCY DIPLOMA, IF THE ADULT LEARNER MEETS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING
35 REQUIREMENTS:

36 1. ENROLLS IN A COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM.

37 2. PARTICIPATES IN INTEGRATED EDUCATION AND TRAINING AS DEFINED IN
38 THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT, OR ITS SUCCESSOR.

39 3. PURSUES ACADEMIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT RELATED TO ADULT EDUCATION
40 AND LITERACY ACTIVITIES AS DEFINED IN THE WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND
41 OPPORTUNITY ACT, OR ITS SUCCESSOR.

42 ~~C~~ D. The community college adult education workforce development
43 program fund is established consisting of legislative appropriations and
44 any other monies. The department of education shall administer the fund.
45 Monies in the fund are continuously appropriated and are exempt from the

1 provisions of section 35-190 relating to lapsing of appropriations.
2 Notwithstanding any other law, a program school shall be funded as
3 follows:

4 1. The program school may receive up to \$3,000 per full-time
5 student in the program each fiscal year. Part-time students shall be
6 funded in proportion to the number of enrolled courses or hours of
7 instruction.

8 2. The department of education shall distribute fund monies to all
9 program schools that meet the criteria prescribed in subsection B of this
10 section in a proportional manner based on the number of adult learners
11 each program school serves.

12 ~~D.~~ E. A program school shall use monies received under this
13 section to ~~supplement and not supplant current program offerings~~ ENHANCE
14 OR EXPAND EXISTING ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. In addition to
15 any monies received from the fund, a program school may accept and spend
16 federal monies and private grants, gifts, contributions and devises to
17 assist the program school in carrying out the purposes of this section. A
18 program school shall use monies received under subsection ~~C.~~ D of this
19 section for adult learners to participate in ~~a high school diploma or high~~
20 ~~school equivalency diploma~~ AN ADULT EDUCATION program that ~~also~~ offers
21 ACADEMIC INSTRUCTION AND an industry-recognized credential, A COMMUNITY
22 COLLEGE CERTIFICATE or A community college degree. A portion of monies
23 may be used for additional support services to ensure the success of adult
24 learners in the program, including the following:

25 1. Transportation assistance for adult learners with a demonstrated
26 need.

27 2. Child care services for dependents of adult learners while the
28 adult learner is on-site.

29 3. College and career counseling.

30 4. Job placement assistance.

31 ~~E.~~ F. For each year that monies are appropriated by the
32 legislature to the fund established by subsection ~~C.~~ D of this section, on
33 or before October 30, each participating community college shall submit a
34 report regarding the community college adult education workforce
35 development program to the department of education. The department of
36 education shall compile the reports received from each participating
37 community college and, on or before December 15 of each year, shall
38 provide an annual report to the governor, the president of the senate, the
39 speaker of the house of representatives and the state board of education
40 and shall provide a copy of this report to the secretary of state. Each
41 report shall include, at a minimum, all of the following information for
42 each participating community college for the preceding school year:

43 1. The number of adult learners enrolled in the program.

44 2. The completion rate of high school diplomas and high school
45 equivalency diplomas earned by adult learners enrolled in the program.

- 1 3. The average progress of adult learners toward meeting completion
2 criteria.
- 3 4. The number and type of industry-recognized credentials,
4 **COMMUNITY COLLEGE CERTIFICATES**, community college degree credits and
5 community college degrees earned by adult learners enrolled in the
6 program.
- 7 5. A descriptive summary of the community college adult education
8 workforce development program offered.
- 9 6. The number of adult learners who have newly acquired proficiency
10 in the English language.
- 11 7. The information required by the performance measures adopted by
12 the state board of education pursuant to section 15-217.
- 13 ~~F.~~ **G.** The state board of education, in cooperation with the
14 department of education, may request information from any program
15 applicant or program school for the purposes of determining program
16 eligibility and funding distributions under this section.
- 17 ~~G.~~ **H.** The state board of education, in cooperation with the
18 department of education, may develop a process to bring a program school
19 into compliance or revoke the program school's authorization to
20 participate in the program, at the discretion of the state board of
21 education.
- 22 ~~H.~~ **I.** The department of education shall provide adequate staff
23 support for the state board of education to comply with this section.