

Education

H.B. 67

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Koehler and Bird

Effective date: Emergency: March 20, 2021

Assessment related provisions

- Exempts public and chartered nonpublic schools from administering the state required American history end-of-course exam in the 2020-2021 school year.
- Specifies dates for spring achievement testing windows for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Requires the Department of Education, or any entity with which the Department contracts for scoring the third-grade English language arts assessments, to send to each school district or school a list of individual scores by June 28, 2021.

High school graduation

- For the 2020-2021 school year, permits an 11th or 12th grade student who takes or retakes or who is unable to take or retake an end-of-course exam to use the final course grade in a course associated with the exam in lieu of a score on that exam to satisfy conditions for a high school diploma.
- Permits school districts, other public schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to grant a high school diploma in the 2020-2021 school year to any student on track to graduate and for whom the principal, in consultation with teachers and counselors, determines has successfully completed the high school curriculum or individualized education program.
- Permits a district or school that has previously adopted a resolution to exceed the state minimum high school curriculum requirements to elect to require only the minimum curriculum in determining high school graduation for the 2020-2021 school year.
- For the 2020-2021 school year, permits a student to qualify for a high school diploma by both successfully completing the school's curriculum requirements and earning the OhioMeansJobs-Readiness Seal.

Data reporting

- Requires the Department to report any data that it has regarding the performance of school districts and buildings for the 2020-2021 school year by October 14, 2021.

Community school sponsor ratings

- For the 2020-2021 school year, prohibits the Department from issuing a rating to a community school sponsor for the academic performance component.

- Requires that a sponsor’s rating for the 2020-2021 school year be based on only the adherence to quality practices and compliance with laws and rules components, and not the academic performance component.
- States that a sponsor’s rating for the 2020-2021 school year does not qualify the sponsor for any incentive for which the sponsor was not previously eligible.

Home-instructed students

- Exempts parents of home-instructed students from the administrative rule requirement to submit an academic assessment record for the 2020-2021 school year as a condition of allowing the student to continue home instruction in the 2021-2022 school year.

Federal waiver

- Requires the Department to seek a waiver from the U.S. Secretary of Education from federal accountability and school identification requirements.

H.B. 82

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cross and Jones

Effective date: September 30, 2021

State report card system

- Revises the state report card system for school districts and other public schools, beginning with the report card issued for the 2021-2022 school year, replacing the A to F letter grade system with a “star” performance rating system.
- Requires the State Board of Education, in consultation with stakeholders and advocates, to adopt rules by March 31, 2022, to establish the performance criteria, benchmarks, and rating systems to implement the new state report card.
- Revises the six components used to determine an overall rating, including how they are rated individually, how they are used to calculate the overall rating, and, in some instances, renames them.
- Revises the performance measures used to determine component ratings and eliminates separate performance ratings for those measures.
- Requires performance ratings to be presented on the state report card with rating descriptions and prescribed graphics depicting rating scales and trends.
- Requires end-of-course exams in science, American history, and American government, as well as certain substitute exams in those subject areas, be included in the calculations of the performance index score for a district or school.
- Requires the Department of Education to explore the feasibility of the value-added progress dimension using the gain index and effect size to improve differentiation and interpretation of the measure.

- Eliminates students in the lowest quintile for achievement statewide as a report card subgroup.
- Requires the Department, by September 30, 2023, to conduct a study regarding the effectiveness and necessity of the value-added progress dimension ranking of public schools.
- Requires the Department, by December 31, 2024, to issue a report regarding the effectiveness of the state report card.
- Establishes a 12-member state report card committee, which must issue a report about state report cards by June 30, 2024.

High school diplomas

Industry recognized credentials

- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction’s industry-recognized credentials and licenses committee to assign a point value for each credential and establish the total number of points necessary to satisfy certain high school graduation requirements.
- Requires the Department, when calculating the students who earned an industry-recognized credential for the state report card, to include only students who earned a credential, or group of credentials, at least equal to that total number of points.

State-issued licenses

- Permits students who obtain a state-issued license for practice in a vocation that requires an exam to use that license to qualify for an Industry-recognized Credential diploma seal or as a “foundational” option when using an alternative demonstration of competency.

College admissions assessments

- Permits the parent or guardian of a student, beginning with the class of 2026, to choose not to have the nationally standardized college admission assessment administered to the student.

Other provisions

- Requires districts and schools to report through the Education Management Information System (EMIS) the number of students enrolled in all-day kindergarten.
- Renames the “accelerated level of skill” range of scores on state assessments to the “accomplished level of skill.”
- Requires that the promotion score used to determine whether a student may be promoted to fourth grade under the third grade reading guarantee be the “proficient level of skill” by July 1, 2024.
- Delays the deadline for the Department to post on its website the community school sponsor evaluation system for the 2021-2022 school year.

S.B. 1

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Wilson and McColley

Effective date: January 27, 2022; Section 4 (educational requirements of substitute teachers), emergency, effective October 28, 2021

Financial literacy curriculum

- Requires students who enter 9th grade for the first time on or after July 1, 2022, to complete one-half unit of financial literacy instruction as part of the required high school curriculum, either as an elective course or in lieu of one-half unit of math.
- Exempts from the requirement students who attend chartered nonpublic schools without a state scholarship.

Financial literacy validation for educator licenses

- Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, requires individuals to have an educator license validation in financial literacy to provide high school instruction in that subject.
- Exempts classroom teachers from the license validation requirement if they hold a valid educator license or endorsement in social studies, family and consumer sciences, or business education.
- Requires school districts, community schools, STEM schools, and chartered nonpublic schools to cover any costs necessary for their employees to receive a financial literacy license validation.
- Exempts chartered nonpublic schools that do not enroll state scholarship students from the license validation requirement and the requirement to cover costs for their teachers to receive a license validation.
- Permits a district, school, or educational service center (ESC) to seek reimbursement of the license validation costs from the Department of Education.
- Requires the Department to reimburse a district, school, or ESC for a teacher's license validation costs, generally by the lesser of the total cost the teacher incurred or \$500.

High School Financial Literacy Fund

- Creates the High School Financial Literacy Fund for reimbursement of license validation costs as a custodial fund outside the state treasury.
- Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to request the Director of Commerce to remit up to \$1.5 million of unclaimed funds to the High School Financial Literacy Fund during the FY 2022-FY 2023 fiscal biennium.
- Requires the state Superintendent and the Director to enter into an agreement for repayment, including interest, of the unclaimed funds remitted to the High School Financial Literacy Fund.

Educational requirements of substitute teachers

- Permits a public or chartered nonpublic school, for the 2021-2022 school year, to employ a substitute teacher according its own education requirements.

S.B. 166

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Reineke

Effective date: March 23, 2022; changes to the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program, emergency, effective December 22, 2021

Student Pathways for Career Success Grant Program

- Requires the Department of Education to establish the Student Pathways for Career Success Grant Program to provide grants to career-technical planning district (CTPD) lead districts and Ohio technical centers to improve or expand career-technical programs that meet workforce needs.

Career awareness and exploration funds

- Requires the Department to pay career awareness and explorations funds directly to each CTPD lead district, rather than deducting and transferring them from the CTPD member districts and schools to the lead district, as under former law.
- Requires each CTPD lead district to use the funds to deliver career awareness and exploration programs to students within the CTPD, rather than disbursing the funds to member districts and schools upon receiving a plan for the use of the funds from them, as under prior law.

Career-technical digital learning

- Permits approved career-technical education programs to provide remote or digital learning opportunities to students on a full-time or hybrid basis to the extent practicable.

State report card – post-secondary readiness

- Permits a student to demonstrate post-secondary readiness on the state report card by earning an OhioMeansJobs-readiness seal and completing 250 hours of a work-based learning experience aligned to the student’s approved career-technical pathway.

Financial incentives for work-based learning experiences

- Requires the Governor’s Office of Workforce Transformation, the Department, the Chancellor of Higher Education, and JobsOhio to create a program that establishes financial incentives for Ohio businesses to provide work-based learning experiences to students in approved career-technical programs.

Pilot program

- Creates the Employers Providing Work-Based Learning Pilot Program, which requires the Administrator of Workers’ Compensation to adopt a rule to prohibit charging any amount against an employer’s experience for a workers’ compensation claim if the employer

provides work-based learning experiences for career-technical education students and the claim is based on a student's injury.

- Exempts from Ohio's Minor Labor Law a student who is participating in an employer's work-based learning experience under the program.
- Ends the program March 23, 2024 (two years after the program's effective date).

Income tax credit: career-technical program employers

- Authorizes a nonrefundable income tax credit for employers equal to 15% of the wages paid to a student participating in a career-technical education program.
- Limits the total amount of credits that may be issued in any fiscal biennium to \$5 million and the total amount that may be issued per year to any employer to \$5,000 per student.

Compensation of JVSDs in community reinvestment areas

- Requires a joint vocational school district (JVSD) to receive similar compensation as a city, local, or exempted village school district when the latter negotiates such an agreement with respect to a commercial or industrial project subject to a community reinvestment area tax exemption.

Driver's education courses and licenses

- Eliminates the prohibition against a student receiving course credit toward graduation for completing a driver's education course conducted by a school district.
- Permits a student who completes a driver's education course offered by the student's district of attendance, or an agency or organization the district contracts with, to earn up to one-half unit of high school elective course credit or up to two points toward an industry-recognized credential.
- Permits a CTPD to use a portion of its state career-technical funds to make a driver's education course available to students in the district.

Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program

- Requires a student to be enrolled in either of the following to participate in the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program:
 - A commercial driver training school licensed by the Director of Public Safety; or
 - A program operated by an institution of higher education or a career-technical center that is exempted from licensure, but is approved by the Director and Chancellor for the program's purposes.
- Revises the Chancellor's duties in operating the program.

American Medical Technologists

- Allows a dental assistant who is certified by the American Medical Technologists, in addition to meeting other continuing law requirements, to perform additional dental services.
- Makes an individual who is certified by the American Medical Technologists eligible to receive a dental x-ray machine operator certificate and, if the individual is a dental assistant, eligible to take the examination to practice as an expanded function dental auxiliary.

Northeast Ohio Medical University

- Permits the Northeast Ohio Medical University's treasurer to provide insurance for faithful performance of duties, in lieu of a bond.
- Adds the University to the definition of "state university," as used in several provisions of continuing law.

H.C.R. 35

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Callender

Adopted: October 20, 2021

- Invalidates proposed amendments to Ohio Administrative Code 3301-35-04.