

ASSEMBLY, No. 1045

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman MILA M. JASEY

District 27 (Essex and Morris)

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Works Dual Enrollment Option Program.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** establishing a “New Jersey Works Dual Enrollment Option
2 Program” and supplementing Title 18A of the New Jersey
3 Statutes and Title 34 of the Revised Statutes.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

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8 1. As used in sections 2 through 6 of this act, “at-risk student”
9 means a high school student who has been identified by a school
10 district as having a high risk of dropping out of school prior to high
11 school graduation, based on a review of risk factors established by
12 the Commissioner of Education. An at-risk student may also
13 include a student who has dropped out of school within the previous
14 year.

15 “Successful completion” means that the student has earned
16 enough credits through the “New Jersey Works Dual Enrollment
17 Option Program” established pursuant to section 2 of this act to
18 qualify for a high school diploma.

19

20 2. a. The Commissioner of Education, in conjunction with the
21 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development, shall
22 establish a “New Jersey Works Dual Enrollment Option Program.”
23 The purpose of the program shall be to provide an alternate
24 education option for recent high school dropouts and students who
25 have been identified as at-risk of dropping out of school prior to
26 high school graduation, and to provide these students with job
27 placement assistance.

28 b. Under the program, an at-risk student may complete his high
29 school graduation requirements through coursework at a county
30 college. The credits earned at the county college shall be applicable
31 to both the student’s high school diploma and towards a credential,
32 certificate, or degree offered by the county college.

33 c. Upon a student’s successful completion of the program, the
34 Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall provide the
35 student with job placement services.

36

37 3. a. The Commissioner of Education shall develop and
38 distribute to each school district a list of risk factors that shall be
39 used to identify at-risk students.

40 b. The commissioner shall provide guidance to school districts
41 on which career, technical, and academic courses offered by county
42 colleges may be applied as dual credit courses under the program to
43 satisfy high school graduation requirements.

44

45 4. The board of education of a school district and the board of
46 trustees of a county college may enter into an agreement to provide
47 for the education of at-risk students under the program. The
48 agreement shall specify:

1 credential, certificate, or degree offered by the county college.
2 Finally, upon a student's successful completion of the program, the
3 Department of Labor and Workforce Development must provide the
4 student with job placement services.

5 The bill directs the Commissioner of Education to develop and
6 distribute to each school district a list of risk factors that can be
7 used to identify high school students who are at high risk of
8 dropping out of school prior to high school graduation. The bill
9 also directs the commissioner to provide guidance to school
10 districts on which career, technical, and academic courses of county
11 colleges may be applied as dual credit courses under the program to
12 satisfy high school graduation requirements.

13 Under the program, the board of education of a school district
14 and the board of trustees of a county college may enter into an
15 agreement to provide for the education of at-risk students under the
16 program.

17 The bill provides that a student enrolled in the "New Jersey
18 Works Dual Enrollment Option Program," and his parent or legal
19 guardian, cannot be held responsible for payment of tuition, student
20 fees, or any other costs of the program. A student enrolled in the
21 program will be included in the district's resident enrollment and
22 the district will receive State aid for that student as provided under
23 the State school funding law, P.L.2007, c.260 (C.18A:7F-43 et al.).