

ASSEMBLY, No. 4342

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 2, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RONALD S. DANCER

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires county colleges and four-year public institutions of higher education to award college credits to police officers for certain courses completed at county police academies.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the award of college credit to certain police
2 officers and supplementing chapters 62 and 64A of Title 18A of
3 the New Jersey Statutes.

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

7
8 1. a. A person who successfully completes a course at a county
9 police academy shall receive college credit for the course at a four-
10 year public institution of higher education that offers a criminal
11 justice degree program if: (1) the institution determines after a
12 review of the curriculum of the course offered by the county police
13 academy that the curriculum is similar to the curriculum of a course
14 offered in the institution's criminal justice program; and (2) upon
15 completion of the course, the person successfully completes an
16 examination approved by the institution. The institution shall waive
17 any credit-by-exam fee that it may charge.

18 b. The county police academies shall work jointly with four-
19 year public institutions of higher education that offer a criminal
20 justice degree program to identify courses at the county police
21 academies which offer a curriculum similar to that of courses
22 included in the criminal justice programs of those institutions.

23
24 2. a. A person who successfully completes a course at a county
25 police academy shall receive college credit for the course at a
26 county college that offers a criminal justice degree program if: (1)
27 the county college determines after a review of the curriculum of
28 the course offered by the county police academy that the curriculum
29 is similar to the curriculum of a course offered in the county
30 college's criminal justice program; and (2) upon completion of the
31 course, the person successfully completes an examination approved
32 by the county college. The county college shall waive any credit-
33 by-exam fee it may charge.

34 b. The county police academies shall work jointly with county
35 colleges that offer a criminal justice degree program to identify
36 courses at the county police academies which offer a curriculum
37 similar to that of courses included in the county colleges' criminal
38 justice programs.

39
40 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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43 **STATEMENT**

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45 This bill will allow a person who successfully completes a course
46 at a county police academy to receive college credit for the course
47 at a county college or a four-year public institution of higher
48 education that offers a criminal justice degree program. Before

1 college credit is awarded, a county college or four-year public
2 institution of higher education must determine that the curriculum
3 of a course offered by the police academy is similar to the
4 curriculum of a course offered in the county college or institution's
5 criminal justice program, and upon completion of the course, the
6 person seeking college credit must successfully complete an
7 examination approved by the county college or institution. The
8 county college and institution must waive any credit-by-exam fee it
9 may charge.

10 This bill will also require county police academies to work with
11 county colleges and four-year public institutions of higher
12 education that offer a criminal justice degree program to identify
13 courses at the county police academies that are similar to criminal
14 justice courses offered at the county colleges and public institutions
15 of higher education.