

[First Reprint]
SENATE, No. 689

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator M. TERESA RUIZ

District 29 (Essex)

Senator TROY SINGLETON

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Concerns NJ PLACE, allocates \$300,000 in FY2020.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Labor Committee on January 27, 2020, with amendments.



1 **AN ACT** concerning the NJ PLACE program, and amending
2 P.L.2009, c.200, P.L.1993, c.268, and P.L.2007, c.175.

3

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

6

7 1. Section 1 of P.L.2009, c.200 (C.34:15D-24) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 1. a. There is established, in the Department of Labor and
10 Workforce Development **【and under the direction of】** in
11 consultation with the State Employment and Training Commission
12 **【as part of the commission's responsibilities pursuant to subsection**
13 **d. of section 9 of P.L.1989, c.293 (C.34:15C-6)】** , the New Jersey
14 Pathways Leading Apprentices to a College Education, or "NJ
15 PLACE", program. The purpose of the program is to facilitate
16 cooperation between appropriate State agencies, employer
17 organizations, labor organizations, schools, and two-year and four-
18 year institutions of higher education to enter into agreements to
19 provide college credit in connection with apprenticeship programs
20 and permit the work of apprentices in those programs to be credited
21 towards two-year and four-year college degrees, including under
22 either: (1) the credit-for-prior-learning model whereby college
23 credit is awarded to a student at the time of enrollment in a degree
24 program and following the successful completion of an approved
25 apprenticeship program; or (2) the co-enrollment model whereby
26 college credit is awarded to a student-apprentice while the student-
27 apprentice is enrolled in and actively engaged in a apprenticeship
28 degree program. To implement its purpose, the program shall
29 **【continue the current process of】** resume the negotiations between
30 county colleges and other institutions of higher education, employer
31 organizations, labor organizations and State agencies which **【has】**
32 resulted in the establishment of an associate in applied science in
33 technical studies degree program into which credits are transferred
34 for the time spent by apprentices in classroom and non-classroom
35 apprenticeship training and education. While most of these
36 **【existing】** previous articulation agreements establishing transfer
37 credits **【are】** were between county colleges and construction trade
38 apprenticeships, the NJ PLACE program shall work to facilitate
39 agreements involving additional apprenticeship programs outside,
40 as well as inside, of the construction industry and involving other
41 institutions of higher education, and four-year, as well as two-year,
42 college degrees.

43 b. The NJ PLACE program shall coordinate its efforts to
44 promote apprenticeship programs and related higher education with

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹**Senate SLA committee amendments adopted January 27, 2020.**

1 the efforts of the "Youth Transitions to Work Partnership Act,"
2 created pursuant to P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-1 et al.) and
3 consortia of businesses, business organizations, labor organizations
4 and educational institutions funded by that partnership to link newly
5 established and existing apprenticeship programs with secondary
6 schools and institutions of higher education to provide effective
7 transitions for high school graduates into those programs.

8 c. The State Employment and Training Commission is
9 authorized to obtain, accept and utilize resources for the NJ PLACE
10 program as may be, or may become, available from appropriate
11 State, federal and non-governmental sources of funding for
12 employment, training and educational purposes, including the
13 Workforce Development Partnership Fund created pursuant to
14 section 9 of P.L.1992, c.43 (C.34:15D-9), the "Supplemental
15 Workforce Fund for Basic Skills" established pursuant to section 1
16 of P.L.2001, c.152 (C.34:15D-21), or funds available pursuant to
17 the **Workforce Investment Act of 1998, Pub.L.105-220 (29 U.S.C.**
18 **s.2801 et seq.)** Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29
19 U.S.C. s.3101 et seq.). Upon the effective date of P.L. ,
20 c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), \$300,000 shall be
21 allocated to the NJ PLACE program from the \$34,500,000 which
22 was appropriated pursuant to the annual appropriations act for State
23 fiscal year '2019' 2020' from the Workforce Development
24 Partnership Fund for the purpose of funding 'the NJ Apprenticeship
25 Network, the Career Accelerator Internship Program, the Workforce
26 Development Policy and Evaluation Lab, the NJ Career Network,
27 and such other priority' additional workforce initiatives 'at the
28 discretion of' recommended by' the Commissioner of Labor and
29 Workforce Development.

30 d. For the purposes of this section, "apprenticeship program"
31 means a registered apprenticeship program providing to each trainee
32 combined classroom and on-the-job training under the direct and
33 close supervision of a highly skilled worker in an occupation
34 recognized as an apprenticeable trade, registered by the Office of
35 Apprenticeship of the U.S. Department of Labor, and meeting the
36 standards established by the office.

37 e. For the purposes of this section:

38 "Apprenticeship degree program" means a program whereby,
39 through cooperation between the administrator of an apprenticeship
40 program, whether an employer, employer organization, or labor
41 organization, and a two-year or four-year institution of higher
42 education, students are permitted to be engaged in and working
43 toward completion of an apprenticeship program while
44 simultaneously enrolled at an institution of higher education in a
45 bachelor's degree program or an associate degree program, and are
46 awarded credits by the institution of higher education toward a

1 bachelor's degree or associate degree based on hours completed in
2 the apprenticeship program.

3 "Student" means an individual enrolled at an institution of higher
4 education in a bachelor's degree program or an associate degree
5 program.

6 "Student-apprentice" means a student who is participating in
7 '[a] an' apprenticeship degree program.

8 (cf: P.L.2009, c.200, s.1)

9
10 2. Section 7 of P.L.1993, c.268 (C.34:15E-7) is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 7. Each consortium which is awarded a grant from the
13 partnership shall, in collaboration with the NJ PLACE program
14 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2009, c.200 (C.34:15D-24),
15 establish a program which provides the option of linkages from
16 apprenticeship to subsequent post-secondary education. Grants may
17 also be provided to consortiums pursuant to this section to create
18 new linkage programs for existing apprenticeship programs. Each
19 participating educational institution in a consortium which is
20 awarded a grant shall develop or modify the classroom curriculum
21 for apprentices to make the classroom training applicable toward
22 associate and baccalaureate degrees. In addition, participating
23 educational institutions shall develop, to the extent feasible,
24 articulation in post-secondary programs which provides
25 participating apprentices with options to progress from
26 apprenticeable trades to professional occupations. The purpose of
27 the program is to **enhance the prestige of education for skilled**
28 **technical work by providing front-line workers with opportunities**
29 **for lifelong vocationally-relevant learning and advancement** create
30 greater career flexibility and mobility for people participating in
31 apprenticeship programs, by allowing them to simultaneously earn
32 college credit towards a degree while learning through their
33 apprenticeship program.

34 Each grant awarded to a consortium shall provide that not less
35 than 15 percent of the grant funds be used for a linkage program
36 established pursuant to this section.

37 (cf: P.L.1993, c.268, s.7)

38
39 3. Section 1 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-46) is amended to
40 read as follows:

41 1. Each public institution of higher education, in consultation
42 with the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education and the New
43 Jersey Presidents' Council, shall establish and enter into a collective
44 Statewide transfer agreement that provides for the seamless transfer
45 of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program from a
46 completed associate of arts degree program, a completed associate
47 of science degree program, or a completed associate in applied
48 science in technical studies degree program in any case in which the

1 program has credits transferred by the NJ PLACE program from
2 apprenticeship programs. The transfer agreement shall include:

3 a. a listing of the general education core courses as stipulated
4 by the Presidents' Council;

5 b. policies and procedures for the seamless transfer and
6 application of academic credits to a baccalaureate degree program
7 from a completed associate degree program, including a guarantee
8 that an associate of arts degree, associate of science degree, or
9 associate in applied science in technical studies degree in any case
10 in which the program has credits transferred by the NJ PLACE
11 program from apprenticeship programs, awarded by a county
12 college established pursuant to chapter 64A of Title 18A of the New
13 Jersey Statutes shall be fully transferable and credited as the first
14 two years of a baccalaureate degree program at the four-year public
15 institution of higher education in the State to which a student is
16 admitted;

17 c. policies and procedures for the implementation of an appeals
18 process for students and institutions to resolve disputes regarding
19 the transfer of academic credits;

20 d. policies and procedures for the annual review and update of
21 the agreement; and

22 e. policies and procedures for the collection of data by the
23 commission to ensure that all participating institutions of higher
24 education are in compliance with the provisions of this act and to
25 ensure that the agreement is fostering both a seamless transfer
26 process and the academic success of transfer students at the senior
27 institutions. The commission shall annually determine the data to be
28 collected and shall notify each participating institution in a timely
29 manner.

30 The policies and procedures set forth in the transfer agreement
31 shall be fully operational by September 1, 2008, except that, with
32 respect to associate in applied science in technical studies degree
33 programs which have credits transferred by the NJ PLACE program
34 from apprenticeship programs, the transfer agreement shall be fully
35 operational by September 1, **【2011】** 2021.

36 (cf: P.L.2009, c.200, s.2)

37

38 4. Section 2 of P.L.2007, c.175 (C.18A:62-47) is amended to
39 read as follows:

40 2. On or before January 1, 2008, each public institution of
41 higher education shall, in consultation with the Commission on
42 Higher Education and the Presidents' Council, develop and adopt as
43 part of the collective Statewide transfer agreement established
44 pursuant to section 1 of this act policies and procedures for the
45 transfer of credits earned by a student who has not completed his
46 associate degree program prior to transferring into a baccalaureate
47 degree program, except that, with respect to associate in applied
48 science in technical studies degree programs which have credits

1 transferred by the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship
2 programs, those policies and procedures shall be developed and
3 adopted on or before January 1, **【2011】** 2021.

4 (cf: P.L.2009, c.200, s.3)

5

6 5. This act shall take effect immediately.