

[First Reprint]

SENATE, No. 4211

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 2, 2021

Sponsored by:

Senator STEPHEN M. SWEENEY

District 3 (Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem)

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblywoman SHANIQUE SPEIGHT

District 29 (Essex)

Assemblyman ANDREW ZWICKER

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators A.M.Bucco, Diegnan, Ruiz, Greenstein, T.Kean, O'Scanlon,

Assemblywomen Jasey, Vainieri Huttie, Assemblyman Mejia and

Assemblywoman Lampitt

SYNOPSIS

Establishes county college-based adult centers for transition for individuals with developmental disabilities; makes annual appropriation of \$4.5 million.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee on December 16, 2021, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/10/2022)

1 AN ACT providing for the establishment of county college-based
2 adult centers for transition for individuals with developmental
3 disabilities and supplementing chapter 64A of Title 18A of the
4 New Jersey Statutes, and making an appropriation.

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

8
9 1. The Legislature finds and declares that:

10 a. Many individuals with developmental disabilities are not
11 able to realize their potential as full community members with
12 maximum independence and productivity because the education and
13 related services, which they were entitled to while in school, ended
14 abruptly once they exited the secondary school system.

15 b. Individuals with developmental disabilities deserve the
16 opportunity to successfully transition into meaningful employment
17 and enhanced independent living opportunities and skills, as
18 appropriate, and they can make greater progress with special
19 services and support during this critical transition period.

20 c. A center that offers individuals with developmental
21 disabilities special services and support, including the coordination
22 of opportunities available from service providers, educational
23 institutions, and the private sector during this period, will enable
24 individuals with developmental disabilities to more successfully
25 transition into independent, productive, and meaningful lives.

26 d. It is appropriate that the board of trustees of each county
27 college establish a county college-based adult center for transition
28 for individuals with developmental disabilities, to assist them in
29 utilizing the college's, State's, and county's existing services,
30 programs, and resources.

31
32 2. a. The board of trustees of a county college shall establish a
33 county college-based adult center for transition for
34 **1[developmentally disabled]¹** individuals 1with developmental
35 disabilities¹ up to the age of 24 to experience a more successful
36 transition from secondary school to postsecondary education, adult
37 employment, and independent living opportunities and skills, as
38 appropriate. The board shall appoint a person qualified by training
39 and experience to direct and administer the adult center for
40 transition.

41 It shall be the purpose of a county college-based adult center to:

42 (1) coordinate and integrate existing county and State-based
43 services, programs, and resources; and

44 (2) ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities up to

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:

¹Senate SBA committee amendments adopted December 16, 2021.

1 the age of 24 have opportunities to receive mentoring, job coaching,
2 skill training, and any other appropriate wrap-around services to
3 help them make a successful transition into employment and
4 independent living, as appropriate.

5 b. The board of trustees of a county college may receive and
6 expend moneys from the State and federal governments or private
7 individuals, corporations, associations, or college foundations to
8 meet the expenses of the county college-based adult center for
9 transition.

10 ¹c. The board of trustees of a county college may, through a
11 contract with the board of trustees of another county college, satisfy
12 the requirement established pursuant to subsection a. of this section
13 by providing individuals with developmental disabilities up to the
14 age of 24 who reside in the county with access to the services
15 offered by the contracted county college's adult center for
16 transition.¹

17

18 3. a. There is appropriated each fiscal year from the General
19 Fund to the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education the sum of
20 \$4,500,000 for the purposes of fulfilling the provisions of this act.

21 b. The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education shall
22 distribute grants to county college-based adult centers for transition
23 in such amounts and by such criteria as are determined by the
24 Secretary of Higher Education.

25

26 4. This act shall take effect immediately.