



# 126th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2013

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Legislative Document

No. 1412

S.P. 506

In Senate, April 23, 2013

**An Act To Create an Educational Collaborative To Implement a  
Program That Enables Career and Technical Education Students  
To Earn College Credits while Attending High School**

(EMERGENCY)

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Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville and  
Senators: BURNS of Washington, CAIN of Penobscot, COLLINS of York, KATZ of Kennebec,  
MILLETT of Cumberland, PATRICK of Oxford, THIBODEAU of Waldo, THOMAS of Somerset,  
WOODBURY of Cumberland, Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, DOAK of Columbia Falls,  
FREDETTE of Newport, GRANT of Gardiner, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, JOHNSON of Greenville,  
MAKER of Calais, MALABY of Hancock, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, McCLELLAN of Raymond,  
MORRISON of South Portland, POULIOT of Augusta, TURNER of Burlington, WILLETTE of  
Mapleton.



1           **§6971. Definitions**

2           As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms  
3           have the following meanings.

4           **1. Collaborative.** "Collaborative" means a dual enrollment career and technical  
5           education collaborative formed pursuant to this chapter to provide a cohort-based  
6           learning pathway for career and technical education students that provides those students  
7           with the opportunity to take postsecondary education courses and earn credits toward an  
8           associate degree while participating in a career and technical education program that  
9           integrates secondary education and postsecondary education courses.

10          **2. Collaborative agreement.** "Collaborative agreement" means an agreement  
11          between a secondary school, a career and technical education program and one or more  
12          public postsecondary education institutions in the State to form a collaborative that  
13          articulates a credit transfer agreement between the publicly supported educational  
14          institutions and that specifies each institution's responsibility for and cost of the delivery  
15          of specified secondary and postsecondary educational functions and support services over  
16          a 3-year period for a cohort-based program that provides secondary school students with  
17          the opportunity to take postsecondary education courses and earn credits toward an  
18          associate degree while participating in a career and technical education program that  
19          integrates secondary education and postsecondary education courses.

20          **3. Collaborative board.** "Collaborative board" means the governing body  
21          composed of representatives of the publicly supported educational institutions with the  
22          powers and duties set forth in this chapter to form a dual enrollment career and technical  
23          education program.

24          **4. Dual enrollment career and technical education program.** "Dual enrollment  
25          career and technical education program" means a nonduplicative learning pathway for a  
26          specific career and technical education program that provides secondary school students  
27          with the opportunity to take postsecondary education courses and earn credits toward an  
28          associate degree while participating in a career and technical education program that:

29           A. Provides a cohort-based experience for secondary school students to acquire  
30           technical skills and proficiencies, earn concurrent credits toward a high school  
31           diploma and a postsecondary education degree through dual enrollment in integrated  
32           secondary and postsecondary education courses over a 3-year period that:

33                   (1) Begins with the student's junior year in secondary school;

34                   (2) Includes up to 3 years of summer career academies; and

35                   (3) Concludes at the end of summer following the student's senior year in  
36                   secondary school; and

37           B. Includes individual learning plans, academic and career assessment, college and  
38           career advising, career exploration and job-shadowing opportunities matched to  
39           achieve the student's individual academic and career goals.

1           **5. Publicly supported educational institution.** "Publicly supported educational  
2 institution" means a publicly supported secondary school, a career and technical  
3 education program and a public postsecondary education institution in the State.

4           **§6972. Dual enrollment career and technical education program**

5           Representatives of the governing bodies of publicly supported educational institutions  
6 may file an application to the commissioner for the purpose of entering into a  
7 collaborative agreement. A collaborative is governed by a collaborative board formed  
8 and operating in accordance with this chapter. The participation of publicly supported  
9 educational institutions in any of the specified educational functions or support services  
10 included in the collaborative agreement is voluntary. A collaborative board may  
11 designate personnel of the publicly supported educational institutions or service providers  
12 to provide the specified educational functions or support services included in the  
13 collaborative agreement. The collaborative board must include one representative from  
14 each publicly supported educational institution participating in the collaborative. The  
15 application for the collaborative must designate the lead publicly supported educational  
16 institution for the collaborative. The chief academic officer or designee of the lead  
17 publicly supported educational institution shall serve as a nonvoting, ex officio member  
18 of the collaborative board and shall administer the collaborative agreement and serve as  
19 fiscal agent for the collaborative board.

20           **§6973. Application; approval; ratification**

21           **1. Application.** An application under section 6972 for a collaborative must be in a  
22 form and contain such information as required by the commissioner, including, but not  
23 limited to:

24           A. The identification of the publicly supported educational institutions that are  
25 applying to form the collaborative;

26           B. The identification of the lead publicly supported educational institution;

27           C. The specified educational functions and support services to be provided by the  
28 collaborative, including the identification of the publicly supported educational  
29 institution that will participate in each specified educational function or support  
30 service and the number of students or staff to be served in each publicly supported  
31 educational institution that is participating in each specified educational function or  
32 support service to be carried out by the collaborative;

33           D. The duration of the collaborative agreement;

34           E. The cost estimate or operational budget for the specified educational functions or  
35 support services to be carried out;

36           F. The method of providing the specified educational functions or support services  
37 and the designation of publicly supported educational institution personnel or service  
38 providers who will provide the specified educational functions or support services;  
39 and

40           G. The method of sharing costs among the publicly supported educational  
41 institutions.

1           **2. Approval.** If the commissioner finds that an application under section 6972  
2 contains the information required to be submitted pursuant to subsection 1, the  
3 commissioner shall notify each publicly supported educational institution participating in  
4 the collaborative agreement that, pending ratification as set forth in subsection 3, the  
5 collaborative is approved. The commissioner shall keep a register of collaboratives that  
6 have been approved and ratified pursuant to this chapter.

7           **3. Governing body ratification.** If the commissioner approves an application for a  
8 collaborative pursuant to subsection 2, the collaborative must be ratified by a majority of  
9 the members of the governing body of each publicly supported educational institution  
10 involved in the collaborative before the collaborative becomes effective.

11           **§6974. Collaborative agreement**

12           **1. Duration of collaborative agreement.** A collaborative agreement that has been  
13 ratified pursuant to section 6973 is valid for the fiscal year beginning July 1st following  
14 the ratification vote and ends June 30th of the calendar year that coincides with the  
15 expiration date included in the collaborative agreement.

16           **2. Renewal of collaborative.** A collaborative may be renewed only upon  
17 ratification by a majority of the members of the governing body of each publicly  
18 supported educational institution involved in the collaborative in accordance with this  
19 chapter.

20           **§6975. Student eligibility**

21           A secondary school student is eligible to participate in secondary and postsecondary  
22 courses offered by a collaborative formed pursuant to this chapter if the following  
23 requirements are satisfied:

24           **1. Availability.** The collaborative has space available for the secondary school  
25 student;

26           **2. Academic standing.** The student is maintaining a minimum secondary school  
27 grade point average of at least 2.0 on a scale of 4.0, or the equivalent as determined by  
28 the collaborative board, except that the collaborative board may waive the minimum  
29 grade point average in the case of a student demonstrating special circumstances and a  
30 substantial likelihood of improvement;

31           **3. Application; prerequisites.** The collaborative board has determined that the  
32 student has satisfactorily completed the application for admission to the program and any  
33 prerequisite courses;

34           **4. School approval.** The secondary school approves;

35           **5. Parental approval.** The student's parent or guardian approves; and

36           **6. Recommendation.** The student has received a recommendation to participate in  
37 the dual enrollment career and technical education program from one of the

1 administrators at the student's secondary school or career and technical education  
2 program and from one of the student's secondary school teachers.

3 **§6976. Credits**

4 **1. High school credit.** A school administrative unit shall grant academic credit  
5 toward a high school diploma to a student who successfully completes a secondary course  
6 under this chapter.

7 **2. Postsecondary credit.** A public postsecondary education institution in the State  
8 shall grant full credit to any secondary student who successfully completes a  
9 postsecondary course under this chapter. The course must apply to graduation  
10 requirements at the public postsecondary education institution at which it was taken or be  
11 transferable to another public postsecondary education institution in the State on an equal  
12 basis with a course taken by any other student at the public postsecondary education  
13 institution at which it was taken.

14 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §8306-B, sub-§4,** as enacted by PL 2011, c. 679, §10, is  
15 amended to read:

16 **4. Learning pathways and articulation agreements with postsecondary**  
17 **institutions; collaborative agreements.** To the greatest extent possible, a career and  
18 technical education program offered at a center or region must provide students the  
19 opportunity to take advantage of any applicable learning pathways, including learning  
20 pathways set forth in an articulation agreement with a postsecondary institution or in a  
21 collaborative agreement with publicly supported secondary and postsecondary  
22 educational institutions that form a dual enrollment career and technical education  
23 program pursuant to chapter 229.

24 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this  
25 legislation takes effect when approved.

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill establishes a collaborative of publicly supported educational institutions in  
28 the State, including career and technical education programs, a public secondary school, a  
29 private secondary school approved for the receipt of public funds under the Maine  
30 Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 117, subchapter 2 that enrolls 60% or more publicly  
31 funded students and public postsecondary institutions in the State, to implement a  
32 program that enables career and technical education students to earn college credits while  
33 attending high school. The program runs for 3 years, beginning with students in their  
34 junior year in high school, enabling students to earn an associate degree following one  
35 year of postsecondary education and saving students time and money in obtaining that  
36 degree.

37 The educational collaborative will develop and implement a cohort-based learning  
38 pathway that enables career and technical education students to earn academic credits  
39 during their junior and senior years of high school that are equivalent to about a year of  
40 college. The program includes opportunities for students to attend up to 3 summer career

1 academies held at an area business, a career and technical education program or a public  
2 postsecondary education institution in the State. The students will then move into a  
3 degree program at a community college or university campus and graduate with an  
4 associate degree within one year after receiving their high school diplomas.