

Educational Success Task Force Legislation

Senate Bill 12-047 (Bill B) Basic Skills Testing in High School — The provisions of Senate Bill 12-047, which was deemed lost, were added to House Bill 12-1345, concerning financing of public schools. The provisions added to House Bill 12-1345 permit a school district, a charter school, or the Charter School Institute (CSI) to administer basic skills placement tests to students in grades 9 through 12. The tests are the same placement tests in reading, writing, and mathematics that are used by community colleges to place first-year freshman students (ACCUPLACER). The tests may be administered as often as deemed necessary; however, the state will only reimburse the cost to administer each of the test units once for each student in grades 9 through 12. The bill appropriates \$1.0 million from the State Education Fund to reimburse the local cost to administer the tests. If a district, a charter school, or the CSI chooses to administer the tests, the student's score must be included in his or her ICAP and must be analyzed to determine the student's level of postsecondary and workforce readiness. If the student's scores indicate that he or she is at-risk of being unable to demonstrate readiness prior to graduation, school personnel must work with the student and the student's parent to create an intervention plan that identifies necessary courses and support services that the student requires to achieve postsecondary and workforce readiness.

House Bill 12-1072 (Bill C) Higher Ed Prior Learning Assessments — Beginning with the 2013-14 academic year, House Bill 12-1072 requires that state institutions of higher education develop a policy or program to determine academic credit for a student's prior learning. Prior learning could include work experience, military service, community involvement, or independent study.

House Bill 12-1013 (Bill D) Interventions for Middle School Students — House Bill 12-1013 requires that local boards of education consider adopting procedures to identify middle school students whose behavior makes them at-risk for dropping out. These procedures may also specify appropriate interventions.

Senate Bill 12-045 (Bill E) Award Associate Degree Transfer Students — Senate Bill 12-045 requires that the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE), in collaboration with state institutions of higher education, develop and coordinate a notification process for students who satisfy certain eligibility requirements to receive an associate's degree, beginning no later than the 2013-14 academic year. If a student completes the residency requirements at a two-year institution, transfers to a four-year institution, and accumulates a total of 70 credit hours, the student must be notified that he or she may be eligible to receive an associate's degree from the two-year institution. The notice to an eligible student must include the requirements for having a degree audit performed by the two-year institution and information about the process for the student to be awarded an associate's degree in the future if the degree requirements are not met, or if the student chooses at that time to decline the degree award.