

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Services Division



[HF 2547](#) – Concurrent Enrollment and Career and Academic Planning (LSB5497HV)
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Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

[House File 2547](#) makes the following changes to the Summer Joint Enrollment Program (Program):

- Modifies the supplementary weighting paid through the school aid formula to allow for supplementary weighted funding to be generated for students enrolled in the Program.
- Removes the Program from the programs subject to the list of high-demand jobs identified by the State Workforce Development Board.
- Requires career academies to include a minimum of two units of secondary education, one of which must include a course that meets the requirements of Iowa Code section [261E.8](#) (district-to-community college sharing or concurrent enrollment program).
- Modifies the calculation of the percentage of the day a pupil attends a concurrent enrollment class, counting their attendance during the summer as if they attended during the school year.
- Requires collective statewide articulation agreements with the Board of Regents (BOR) to transfer academic credits earned through completion of an associate degree program or career and technical education (CTE) program. The Bill also requires program-specific articulation arrangements that favor the transfer of CTE credits to the greatest possible extent.
- Modifies the Program to allow liberal arts and sciences college-level coursework to be offered to students through the Program.
- Requires the individualized career and academic planning process to include discussions with students regarding concurrent enrollment and industry-recognized credentials.

Background

The concurrent enrollment program, also known as district-to-community college sharing, provides high school students opportunities to enroll in eligible college-level courses at or through community colleges. Students do not pay tuition, textbook, or concurrent enrollment fees. Through sharing agreements, tuition is charged to school districts with participating students. Enrollment generates supplemental weighting funds from State school aid that reimburse a portion back to the districts.

The Department of Education has received the [Summer Joint Enrollment](#) General Fund appropriation of \$600,000 in the annual Education Appropriations Act since FY 2019. The appropriation provides moneys for resident high school pupils enrolled in grades 9 through 12 to attend a community college for college-level classes outside of the regular school year through a contractual agreement between a community college and a school district. The appropriation provides the support required by Iowa Code section 261E.8(8). Since FY 2019, the Program has provided over 7,700 students access to free, college-level CTE coursework.

Career academies are career-oriented programs of study that link secondary CTE to a postsecondary education program. They have three main elements:

- Concurrent enrollment coursework.
- Coursework with a career theme that provides a foundation for entering postsecondary programs.
- Strong partnerships among employers, school districts, higher education institutions, and the community.

Recommendations submitted to the General Assembly in July 2025 by the [HF 2545 Comprehensive Review Task Force](#) established in 2024 Iowa Acts, chapter [1159](#) (Iowa Educational Standards Act), outline potential changes to CTE concurrent enrollment and career and academic planning.

The total number of students enrolled in Program courses and CTE programs is as follows for summer 2023 through summer 2025:

- Summer 2023 — 1,863 pupils with 35 total CTE programs offered
- Summer 2024 — 2,113 pupils with 38 total CTE programs offered
- Summer 2025 — 2,407 pupils with 32 total CTE programs offered

Assumptions

- The FY 2027 State cost per pupil is \$7,988, which is based on current law.
- Any legislative changes to the State cost per pupil will alter the fiscal impact.
- Assuming a growth rate of 13.0%, which is the average of the last two years for CTE courses, over the next two years, 2,730 pupils are estimated to enroll for summer 2026 and 3,010 are estimated to enroll for summer 2027.
- Enrollment is based on recent trends for CTE-only enrollment. These calculations only apply if 100.0% of Program students enroll in CTE courses.

Fiscal Impact

House File 2547 is estimated to increase supplementary weighting paid through the supplementary school aid formula by \$962,000 in FY 2027 and by \$1.1 million in FY 2028 if 100.0% of students are enrolled in CTE courses. However, if 75.0% of students enroll in CTE courses and 25.0% of students enroll in college-level liberal arts and sciences courses, the Bill is estimated to increase supplementary weighting by \$893,000 in FY 2027 and \$1.0 million in FY 2028.

Currently, the Summer Joint Enrollment Program receives an annual General Fund appropriation of \$600,000 in the Education Appropriations Act.

There is no fiscal impact on the Department of Education. Administrative work will be performed by Department staff with similar job responsibilities.

Source

Iowa Department of Education

/s/ Jennifer Acton

February 23, 2026

Doc ID 1601475

The fiscal note for this Bill was prepared pursuant to [Joint Rule 17](#) and the Iowa Code. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.