

**House File 2547 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2547  
BY COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 572)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to career education, including by modifying  
2 provisions related to career academies, the collective  
3 statewide articulation agreement between community colleges  
4 and the state board of regents, the district-to-community  
5 college sharing or concurrent enrollment program, and  
6 individual career and academic plans.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 84A.1B, subsection 3, unnumbered paragraph  
2 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

3 Create, and update as necessary, a list of high-demand jobs  
4 statewide for purposes of the future ready Iowa registered  
5 apprenticeship programs created in chapter 84F, the summer  
6 youth intern pilot program established under section 84A.12,  
7 the Iowa employer innovation program established under section  
8 84A.13, the future ready Iowa skilled workforce last-dollar  
9 scholarship program established under section 256.228, and the  
10 future ready Iowa skilled workforce grant program established  
11 under section 256.229, ~~and postsecondary summer classes for high~~  
12 ~~school students as provided under section 261E.8, subsection~~  
13 ~~8.~~ In addition to the list created by the workforce  
14 development board under this subsection, each community college,  
15 in consultation with regional career and technical education  
16 planning partnerships, and with the approval of the board of  
17 directors of the community college, may identify and maintain  
18 a list of not more than five regional high-demand jobs in the  
19 community college region, and shall share the lists with the  
20 workforce development board. The lists submitted by community  
21 colleges under the subsection may be used in that community  
22 college region for purposes of programs identified under this  
23 subsection. The workforce development board shall have full  
24 discretion to select and prioritize statewide high-demand jobs  
25 after consulting with business and education stakeholders,  
26 as appropriate, and seeking public comment. The workforce  
27 development board may add to the list of high-demand jobs as it  
28 deems necessary. For purposes of this subsection, "high-demand  
29 job" means a job in the state that the board, or a community  
30 college in accordance with this subsection, has identified in  
31 accordance with this subsection. In creating a list under this  
32 subsection, the following criteria, at a minimum, shall apply:

33 Sec. 2. Section 256.137, subsection 1, unnumbered paragraph  
34 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

35 A career academy may be established under an agreement

1 between a single school district and a community college, or by  
2 multiple school districts and a community college organized into  
3 a regional career and technical education planning partnership  
4 pursuant to section 256.136. A career academy established under  
5 this section shall be a career-oriented or occupation-oriented  
6 program of study that includes a minimum of two years units  
7 of secondary education, of which at least one unit must be  
8 from a course that meets the requirements of section 261E.8,  
9 which may fulfill the sequential unit requirement in one of  
10 the four service areas required under section 256.11, subsection  
11 5, paragraph "h", is articulated with a postsecondary education  
12 program, and is approved by the director under section 256.130.  
13 A career academy shall do all of the following:

14 Sec. 3. Section 257.11, subsection 3, paragraph b, unnumbered  
15 paragraph 1, Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

16 If the school budget review committee certifies to the  
17 department of management that the class would not otherwise  
18 be implemented without the assignment of additional weighting,  
19 pupils attending a community college-offered class or attending  
20 a class taught by a community college-employed instructor are  
21 assigned a weighting of the percentage of the pupil's school day  
22 during which the pupil attends class in the community college or  
23 attends a class taught by a community college-employed instructor  
24 times seventy hundredths for career and technical courses or  
25 fifty hundredths for liberal arts and sciences courses. For  
26 purposes of calculating the percentage of the pupil's day during  
27 which the pupil attends class in the community college or attends  
28 a class taught by a community college-employed instructor, a  
29 pupil attending a course during the summer term pursuant to  
30 section 261E.8, subsection 8, shall be counted as if the pupil  
31 attended the course during the same school year in which the  
32 school calendar first begins following the summer term. The  
33 following requirements shall be met for the purposes of assigning  
34 an additional weighting for classes offered through a sharing  
35 agreement between a school district and community college. The

1 class must be:

2 Sec. 4. Section 260C.14, subsection 22, Code 2026, is amended  
3 to read as follows:

4 22. a. Enter into a collective statewide articulation  
5 agreement with the state board of regents pursuant to section  
6 262.9, subsection 31, which shall provide for the seamless  
7 transfer of academic credits from a completed associate of  
8 arts or associate of science degree program offered by a  
9 community college to a baccalaureate degree program offered by  
10 an institution of higher education governed by the state board of  
11 regents of all of the following:

12 (1) Academic credits earned through a completed associate of  
13 arts degree program.

14 (2) Academic credits earned through a completed associate of  
15 science degree program.

16 (3) Career and technical education credits from an associate  
17 of arts degree program, an associate of science degree program,  
18 an applied associate of arts degree program, or an applied  
19 associate of science degree program.

20 b. The collective statewide articulation agreement described  
21 in paragraph "a" shall enable program-specific arrangements that  
22 favor the transfer of career and technical education credits  
23 that meet baccalaureate degree requirements of the institution of  
24 higher education governed by the state board of regents.

25 c. The collective statewide articulation agreement described  
26 in paragraph "a" shall not include a uniform restriction related  
27 to the number of career and technical education credits that may  
28 be transferred. This paragraph shall not be construed to require  
29 the transfer of all career and technical education credits when  
30 such transfer may restrict a student's access to financial aid or  
31 when such transfer would not advance a student toward completion  
32 of a baccalaureate degree program.

33 d. The board shall also do the following:

34 ~~a.~~ (1) Identify a transfer and articulation contact office  
35 or person, publicize transfer and articulation information and

1 the contact office or person, and submit the contact information  
2 to the state board of regents, which shall publish the contact  
3 information on its articulation internet site.

4 ~~b.~~ (2) Collaborate with the state board of regents to  
5 meet the requirements specified in section 262.9, subsection  
6 31, including but not limited to developing a systematic  
7 process for expanding academic discipline and meetings between  
8 the community college faculty and faculty of the institutions  
9 of higher education governed by the state board of regents,  
10 developing criteria to prioritize core curriculum areas,  
11 promoting greater awareness of articulation-related activities,  
12 facilitating additional opportunities for individual institutions  
13 to pursue program articulation agreements for career and  
14 technical educational programs, and developing and implementing  
15 a process to examine a minimum of eight new associate of  
16 applied science degree programs for which articulation agreements  
17 would serve students' continued academic success in those degree  
18 programs.

19 Sec. 5. Section 261E.8, subsection 8, Code 2026, is amended  
20 to read as follows:

21 ~~8. Subject to an appropriation of funds by the general~~  
22 ~~assembly for this purpose, the~~ The department shall establish  
23 a program to provide additional funds for resident high school  
24 pupils enrolled in grades nine through twelve to attend a  
25 community college for college-level classes or attend a class  
26 taught by a community college-employed instructor through a  
27 contractual agreement between a community college and a school  
28 district that satisfies the requirements for classes under  
29 section 257.11, subsection 3, except that the classes eligible  
30 for funding under this program are offered during ~~the~~ a summer  
31 ~~and outside of the regular school year term~~ and are aligned  
32 with a transfer pathway or a career pathways pathway leading  
33 to postsecondary credentials and ~~high-demand jobs designated by~~  
34 ~~the workforce development board or a community college pursuant~~  
35 ~~to section 84A.1B, subsection 3.~~ A community college shall

1 not charge students tuition for a class offered partially or  
2 completely outside of the regular school year under this program.

3 Sec. 6. Section 279.61, subsection 1, paragraph a,  
4 subparagraph (2), Code 2026, is amended to read as follows:

5 (2) Identify the coursework and work-based learning needed in  
6 grades nine through twelve to support the student's postsecondary  
7 education and career options. This shall include a discussion  
8 with the student related to opportunities that are available  
9 to the student through the school district to earn college  
10 credit and industry-recognized credentials that are aligned to  
11 the student's postsecondary and career interests.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill relates to career education, including by modifying  
16 provisions related to career academies, the collective statewide  
17 articulation agreement between community colleges and the state  
18 board of regents, the district-to-community college sharing or  
19 concurrent enrollment program, and individual career and academic  
20 plans.

21 Under current law, a career academy may be established under  
22 an agreement between a single school district and a community  
23 college, or by multiple school districts and a community college  
24 organized into a regional career and technical education planning  
25 partnership, and such a career academy is required to be a  
26 career-oriented or occupation-oriented program of study that  
27 includes a minimum of two years of secondary education. The  
28 bill provides that a career academy is required to include a  
29 minimum of two units of secondary education, of which at least  
30 one unit must be from a course that meets the requirements of  
31 Code section 261E.8 (district-to-community college sharing or  
32 concurrent enrollment program).

33 Current law requires the boards of directors of community  
34 colleges to enter into a collective statewide articulation  
35 agreement with the state board of regents that provides for the

1 seamless transfer of academic credits from a completed associate  
2 of arts or associate of science degree program offered by a  
3 community college to a baccalaureate degree program offered by  
4 an institution of higher education governed by the state board  
5 of regents. The bill modifies this provision to provide that  
6 the collective statewide articulation agreement must provide  
7 for the seamless transfer of academic credits earned through  
8 a completed associate of arts degree program; academic credits  
9 earned through a completed associate of science degree program;  
10 and career and technical education credits from an associate of  
11 arts degree program, an associate of science degree program, an  
12 applied associate of arts degree program, or an applied associate  
13 of science degree program to a baccalaureate degree program  
14 offered by an institution of higher education governed by the  
15 state board of regents. Additionally, the collective statewide  
16 articulation agreement is required to enable program-specific  
17 arrangements that favor the transfer of career and technical  
18 education credits that meet baccalaureate degree requirements of  
19 the institution of higher education governed by the state board  
20 of regents. The statewide articulation agreement is prohibited  
21 from including a uniform restriction related to the number of  
22 career and technical education credits that may be transferred;  
23 however, this provision is not to be construed to require the  
24 transfer of all career and technical education credits when such  
25 transfer may restrict a student's access to financial aid or when  
26 such transfer would not advance a student toward completion of a  
27 baccalaureate degree program.

28 Current Code section 261E.8(8) provides that, subject to an  
29 appropriation of moneys by the general assembly, the department  
30 of education is required to establish a program to provide  
31 additional funds for resident high school pupils enrolled  
32 in grades 9 through 12 to attend a community college for  
33 college-level classes or attend a class taught by a community  
34 college-employed instructor through a contractual agreement  
35 between a community college and a school district, except that

1 the classes eligible for funding under this program are offered  
2 during the summer and outside of the regular school year and are  
3 aligned with career pathways leading to postsecondary credentials  
4 and high-demand jobs designated by the workforce development  
5 board or a community college. The bill modifies current Code  
6 section 261E.8(8) by requiring the department of education to  
7 establish such program regardless of whether the general assembly  
8 appropriates moneys. In addition, the bill provides that the  
9 classes eligible for funding under the program must be offered  
10 during a summer term and must also be aligned with a transfer  
11 pathway or a career pathway leading to postsecondary credentials.  
12 Pupils attending a class under the program are to be assigned  
13 additional weighting in accordance with Code section 257.11(3)  
14 (district-to-community college sharing and concurrent enrollment  
15 programs). The bill makes conforming changes.

16 Current law provides that individualized career and academic  
17 plans developed by schools in cooperation with students enrolled  
18 in eighth grade must, among other things, identify the coursework  
19 and work-based learning needed in grades 9 through 12 to support  
20 the student's postsecondary education and career options. The  
21 bill provides that this is required to include a discussion with  
22 the student related to opportunities that are available to the  
23 student through the school district to earn college credit and  
24 industry-recognized credentials that are aligned to the student's  
25 postsecondary and career interests.