

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3848

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

January 31, 2021

Introduced by Sen. SERINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing a community business initiative

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 309-b  
2 to read as follows:

3 § 309-b. Community business initiative. 1. For the purposes of this  
4 section "qualifying institution" shall mean postsecondary providers of  
5 career education, vocational or technical education providers, continu-  
6 ing education adult schools, community colleges, or workforce training  
7 institutions.

8 2. Within amounts appropriated, and upon application by qualifying  
9 institutions, the commissioner shall award grants equaling up to three  
10 hundred thousand dollars per project in up to six counties of the state  
11 for three years for the development of a school-based incubator to train  
12 applicants in business education, financial literacy, and marketing in  
13 order to develop local businesses that contribute to the local economy  
14 and address community needs.

15 3. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations to imple-  
16 ment the community business initiative to include, but not be limited  
17 to:

18 (a) application processes for funds for qualifying institutions and  
19 evaluation metrics that include, but are not limited to, the ability for  
20 initiatives to meet local needs or address gaps in local business  
21 markets. Nothing within the application process shall preclude qualify-  
22 ing institutions from partnering with local chambers of commerce, small  
23 business groups, or local government to identify needs of the community  
24 and establish collaborative applications;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (b) descriptions of qualifying community business initiatives that  
2 include, but are not limited to, those that place an emphasis on train-  
3 ing and employing older workers, minorities, and women, as well as those  
4 initiatives that are targeted at servicing high risk populations,  
5 seniors, or the disabled;

6 (c) descriptions of business development curriculum including but not  
7 limited to, the development of business plans, technological training,  
8 production efficiency, local dialogue and cooperation, and the utiliza-  
9 tion of local resources;

10 (d) rules and regulations for the establishment of community busi-  
11 nesses including, but not limited to, ownership and liability responsi-  
12 bilities for the qualifying institution and participating students at  
13 all stages of the development process; and

14 (e) reporting requirements for the qualifying institutions to track  
15 participant involvement, expenditures, training effectiveness, and best  
16 practices for curriculum targeted at local business development.

17 4. The commissioner shall monitor implementation of programs, evaluate  
18 progress, and require reports as needed. At the conclusion of the three  
19 year pilot period, the commissioner shall report to the speaker of the  
20 assembly, the temporary president of the senate and post on the depart-  
21 ment website a report that includes a description of the chosen communi-  
22 ty business initiatives, best practices, identification of key concerns  
23 and recommendations for improvement as well as model workforce training  
24 curriculum and guidance for training and servicing the identified popu-  
25 lations.

26 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day after  
27 it shall have become a law.