

STATE OF NEW YORK

9240

IN SENATE

February 18, 2026

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

AN ACT to establish a pilot program for schools with active aging programs or specializations in place; and providing for the repeal of such provisions on expiration thereof

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

1 Section 1. 1. There is hereby established a pilot program and curric-
2 ulum for schools with active aging programs or specializations in place.
3 The director of the office for the aging, in conjunction with the
4 commissioner of education and the commissioner of health, shall identify
5 faculty and project directors who shall serve as the curriculum team,
6 using their expertise in identified specialty topics, including but not
7 limited to, primary care, specialty medicine (i.e., infectious disease,
8 nephrology, etc.), trauma-informed practice, sexual health, healthy
9 aging, aging in place, end-of-life and palliative care, serving diverse
10 populations, etc. Such curriculum team shall identify areas that are
11 most relevant to persons working with older adults currently, and/or
12 represent emerging and evidenced-based practices and create a suggested
13 syllabus template for an advanced-year practice class in the field of
14 aging.

15 2. During the first 2 years, the pilot program shall track and bench-
16 mark learning opportunities for continued expansion while exploring
17 other schools' interests in participation. In the third year, such pilot
18 program shall identify additional schools able to participate.

19 3. A workforce development center for professional development in
20 gerontological/geriatric education funded by multiple state agencies,
21 including, but not limited to, the office for the aging, the department
22 of health and the department of education, is established. The curric-
23 ulum team shall further identify support from public/private partner-
24 ships to engage emerging professionals. The workforce development center
25 shall provide a base to recruit and coordinate schools, provide incen-
26 tive awards for students, provide faculty honoraria to teach courses and
27 hold seminars, collect performance data regarding implementation and

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

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1 outcomes, hold schools accountable, utilize opportunities offered by the
2 1115 Medicaid workforce initiatives, and collaborate with Workforce
3 Investment Organizations, and identify and develop additional educa-
4 tional and training resources. Set forth in the agreement with the
5 schools for the identification of a faculty project director to partic-
6 ipate in the development, implementation, and coordination of the
7 project, offer an aging-focused course at least once per year based on
8 the project syllabus template, recruit students to participate in the
9 project, and identify and develop possible internships for students to
10 reflect innovative approaches and a breadth of aging services and learn-
11 ing opportunities which may lead to employment opportunities.

12 § 2. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall
13 have become a law and shall expire and be deemed repealed three years
14 after such effective date.