STATE OF NEW YORK

7836

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

July 7, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. EACHUS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing an advanced coursework and examination access program

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 817 to read as follows:

§ 817. Advanced coursework and examination access program. 1. For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

a. "Advanced coursework program" shall mean a course of study offered by a nonprofit foundation or organization to students of authorized schools that results in the award of college credit or by which the completion of the program commonly results in the discretionary granting of credit by colleges at enrollment, such term shall not include programs offered by institutions of higher education pursuant to section two of this chapter.

b. "Advanced coursework provider" shall mean a nonprofit foundation or organization that develops and administers advanced coursework programs and is recognized by the commissioner and the board of regents.

c. "Advanced coursework exam" shall mean any test or exam administered as a component of an advanced coursework program and is a requirement of the program in order for a student to achieve college credit or a discretionary equivalent as defined by paragraph a of this subdivision. Such test or exam must require a fee prior to administration.

d. "Authorized school" shall mean an institution of secondary education that has completed an audit or authorization process through the advanced coursework provider allowing for the delivery of an advanced coursework program.

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

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e. "Exam fee" shall mean the billed cost of an advanced coursework exam.

f. "Provider fee reduction" shall mean a reduction or financial assistance granted by an advanced coursework provider for certain qualifying students to partially reduce an exam fee.

2. The department is authorized and directed to reimburse exam fees associated with the administration of an advanced coursework exam. The amount of such reimbursement shall reflect the per pupil cost after taking into account any provider fee reduction.

3. School districts hosting one or more authorized schools shall file with the commissioner, in a form determined by the commissioner, all information relevant to securing a reimbursement by June first of the base year. The department shall provide the school district hosting one or more authorized schools the reimbursement within thirty days of such filing.

4. Authorized schools are directed to inform students and parents of all advanced coursework programs offered, their cost-free status, and the potential benefits of their successful completion as it relates to college credit and other academic opportunities. Such notification shall be provided to each student and parent directly at the start of the academic year and made available on the school website.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the first of July next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.