STATE OF NEW YORK

6725

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 20, 2025

Introduced by Sen. BAILEY -- 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 the advanced coursework expansion incentive grant 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 3641-c to read as follows:

§ 3641-c. Advanced coursework expansion incentive grant program. 1. (a) The commissioner shall establish the advanced coursework expansion incentive grant program for high schools in the state. Any school district which currently offers less than five advanced courses may apply to receive a grant under such program; provided such school district expands college credit earning courses with a nationally normed college credit earning program including, but not limited to, Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate coursework and enrolls economically disadvantaged students who complete a course and sit for the exam that provides college credit upon completion of such course. A school district shall receive a three hundred fifty dollar grant for each such student in the school year following a student's course and exam completion. A school district shall only receive one grant per student.

(b) For the purposes of this section, "economically disadvantaged students" shall mean those who participate in, or whose family participates in, economic assistance programs, such as the free or reduced-price lunch programs, social security insurance (SSI), food stamps, foster care, refugee assistance (monetary or medical assistance), earned income tax credit (EITC), home energy assistance program (HEAP), safety net assistance (SNA), Bureau of Indian Affairs assistance programs (BIA), or temporary assistance for needy families (TANF). If one student in a family is identified as economically disadvantaged, all students from that household may be identified as economically disadvantaged.

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

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2. Grants awarded under the advanced coursework expansion incentive grant program shall be used to continue the expansion of advanced course offerings. In creating a new college credit earning course or courses, the school district may expend funding from the grant program to pay for teacher training and ongoing professional development, course materials necessary for the coursework including, but not limited to textbooks, online resources, lab equipment, student support services to help students achieve college credit, and other such materials and services as deemed necessary to create the new course or courses by the commissioner. Funding shall be used for in classroom courses unless it is determined by the school district and approved by the commissioner that an online or blended learning course is the only option. No funds from this grant program may be used to establish new dual enrollment courses with nonprofit colleges or universities.

3. Subject to appropriation, grants shall be awarded by the commissioner to any school district described in subdivision one of this section that requests such funding and has at least ten economically disadvantaged students complete the required coursework and exam in the prior year.

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