§ 6303. Programs and curricula of community colleges. 1. Community colleges shall provide two-year programs of post high school nature combining general education with technical education relating to the occupational needs of the community, area or community college region in which the college is located and those of the state and the nation generally. Special courses and extension work may be provided for part-time students.

2. Training for certain occupational skills may be limited to selected community colleges by the state university trustees in order to avoid unnecessary duplication or overlapping of facilities and programs.

3. The curricula in community colleges shall be designed to serve the needs of students who seek two years of post secondary education and whose needs would not ordinarily be met by the usual four-year college curriculum. However, such colleges shall nevertheless provide sufficient general education to enable qualified students who so desire to transfer after completion of the community college program to institutions providing regular four-year courses except that the provision of such general education sufficient for transfer to institutions providing regular four-year courses shall be at the option of the local sponsor in any of the community colleges established upon discontinuance of a state institute of applied arts and sciences and upon discontinuance of the veterans vocational school at Troy pursuant to the provisions of section fifty-nine hundred nine of former article one hundred nineteen of this chapter.

4. The curricula of the community colleges shall be developed with the assistance and guidance of the state university trustees and shall be subject to their approval, and such modifications, amendments and revisions as they may from time to time prescribe.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general, special or local law, rule or regulation, community colleges may permit persons sixty years of age or over to audit courses given therein without tuition, examination, grading or credit therefor upon a space available basis, subject to the provisions of section sixty-three hundred four of

this chapter, as determined by the president of each such institution, provided that such audit attendance does not deny course attendance at a community college by an individual who is otherwise qualified under the regulations and the provisions of section sixty-three hundred four of this chapter. The provisions of this paragraph shall not affect any state aid to community colleges granted pursuant to article one hundred twenty-six of this chapter.

6. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general, special or local law, rule or regulation, each community college, or the entity or entities responsible for setting tuition at such institution, shall be authorized to set a reduced rate of tuition and/or fees, or to waive tuition and/or fees entirely, for students participating in any dual or concurrent enrollment program with no reduction in other state, local, or other support for such students earning college credit that such higher education partner would otherwise be eligible to receive; provided that, for purposes of this provision, a dual or concurrent enrollment program shall mean one or more college courses taken by a high school student through a community college while such student is still enrolled in high school or boards of cooperative educational services and for which the student may receive both high school and college credit.