

# Iowa Valley Community College District 2021 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



## Legislative Week 5

### New Legislation Filed

**House File (HF) 375** – Relates to the registration of postsecondary schools with the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (ICSAC) and to the Postsecondary Registration Fund under the control of the Commission. HF 375 amends Iowa Code 261B.8, subsection 3, which relates to the registration of postsecondary schools with the ICSAC. Under HF 375, colleges and universities authorized by a foreign country, private business schools accredited by the U. S. Department of Education or the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, and schools of nursing from outside of Iowa would not be exempt from such requirements in the bill.

Currently, individuals maintaining or conducting any education course by classroom instruction or by correspondence or other delivery method, or soliciting the sale of such course in Iowa, must file with the ICSAC a continuous corporate surety bond in the amount of \$50,000. The bill provides that the bond may be in the amount of \$50,000 or in a sum equivalent to 10 percent of the total annual tuition is available only to barber schools and schools of cosmetology arts and sciences.

Under the bill, the definition of “postsecondary educational program” is modified to include, but not limited to other certifications or designations, regardless of whether the proprietary school awards the credentials.

Under the bill, if a student withdraws within the first two calendar weeks, the school must refund all tuition charges to the student. If a terminating, student has completed 60 percent or more of a school period, the school is not required to refund tuition charges to the student.

HF 375 was filed by Representatives Dolecheck (R-Mount Ayr) and Winkler (D-Davenport) and was referred to the House Education subcommittee: Dolecheck, Bossman, and Mascher.

**Senate Study Bill (SSB) 1149** – Relates to the licensure of persons completing an apprenticeship program. SSB 1149 was filed by the Senate State Government Committee and requires a licensing board (Iowa Code 272C.1) to grant a license to a person who completes an apprenticeship program that meets certain federal requirements and if the person submits an application to the appropriate board.

The study bill would allow a board to impose the same requirements

regarding examinations and the payment of fees that the board imposes on an applicant who has completed an educational program and also prohibits a board from requiring an applicant to complete more hours of apprenticeship training than the number of hours of education required by an applicant who completes an educational program.

Under the bill, provisions for apprenticeship programs for licenses for electricians and electrical contractors, plumbers, mechanical professionals, and contractors would not have any changes. SSB 1149 goes into effect on January 1, 2022, and was referred to a Senate State Government subcommittee: Driscoll, Dotzler, and Schultz.

**House Study Bill (HSB) 199** – Directs the Board of Regents to require that the course syllabus for each course offered by a state university be published on the state university’s internet site. Each syllabus must, at least, provide a brief description of each major course requirement, list any required or recommended reading, and provide a general description of the subject matter of any lecture or discussion. Under HSB 199, any updates to the syllabus must be posted as soon as reasonably possible and the syllabus must be available on the institution’s internet site for at least 2 years following the initial date of

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posting. HSB 199 was filed by the House Education Committee and was referred to a subcommittee: Brink, Fry, and Winkler.

**House File (HF) 399** – Provides for a statewide course numbering system for postsecondary and concurrent enrollment courses. HF 399 requires the Board of Regents and the Iowa Department of Education, in cooperation with the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and the Board of Directors of Iowa’s Community Colleges, to develop, coordinate, and maintain a statewide course numbering system for postsecondary and concurrent enrollment education in school districts, accredited nonpublic schools, public postsecondary educational institutions, and accredited private institutions, to improve program planning, increase communication among delivery systems, and facilitate student acceleration and the transfer of students and credits between the schools and postsecondary institutions.

The bill requires cooperation between the educational sector named in the bill to adopt a fee schedule that includes the expenses incurred through data processing, faculty task force travel and per diem costs, and staff and clerical support time, and differentiates between the costs of initial course inclusion and the costs of system maintenance. The bill was filed by

Rep. Gobble (R-Ankeny) and was referred to House Education.

**On the Senate Debate Calendar  
Senate File 262** – A bill for an act relating to the eligibility requirements for students under the Iowa Senior Year Plus program.

**On the House Debate Calendar  
House File 308** - A bill for an act relating to the eligibility requirements for students under the Iowa Senior Year Plus program.

**House File 316** - A bill for an act relating to the determination of a student’s district of residence for purposes of open enrollment payments and including applicability provisions.

**House File 301** - A bill for an act establishing a childcare workforce state matching grants program and fund administered by the early childhood Iowa state board to award matching state grants to eligible communities and making an appropriation.

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For more information about the activity during the 2021 legislative session, please contact:  
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