

Iowa Valley Community College District 2022 Legislative Updates

By Cindy S. Schulte, IVCCD Director of Governmental Affairs



*Activity during the week of
January 16th*

SESSION TIMETABLE

This week marked the date during the Legislature when it is the final day that Senate bills and resolutions are to be reported out of Senate committees and House bills and resolutions are reported out of House committees (Joint Rule 20).

APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEES MEET

On Wednesday, January 19th, the Joint Education subcommittee and the Joint Economic Development subcommittee met with the Iowa Legislative Services Agency staff to review the Governor's FY 2023 budget recommendations.

MENTAL HEALTH LEGISLATION FILED

A variety of bills were filed by the House Human Resources Committee to expand access to mental health care in Iowa. The bills filed include:

House Study Bill (HSB) 531 – An act that increases the current capacity at the Independence and Cherokee Mental Health Institutes by 50% by adding 32 adult beds and 14 child/adolescent beds for mental health patients.

House Study Bill (HSB) 532 – An act to fund 12 psychiatric residents per year while increasing the number of psychiatrists trained in Iowa.

House Study Bill (HSB) 530 – An act that requires the Iowa Department of Human Services to establish a Medicaid rate for those needing a higher level of inpatient psychiatric care.

NEW LEGISLATION FILED

House Study Bill (HSB) 541 and Senate Study Bill (SSB) 3046 – An act that pertains to students who are eligible to receive a scholarship from the Future Ready Iowa (FRI) Skilled Workforce Last Dollar Scholarship Fund. The bills allow for a student under the age of 20 (prior to becoming an adult learner) to enroll part-time and qualify for the scholarship program. Currently, students under the age of 20 must enroll full-time in an eligible program, unless they are participating in a registered apprenticeship program approved by the Federal U.S. Department of Labor. The bill was filed by the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (ICSAC) and it is estimated by staff that for the 2022-2023 academic year, expenditures will increase by approximately \$1,300,000.00 with the change in the program under the bills. Both bills were referred to subcommittee assignments in

the House and Senate Education committees.

House File (HF) 2019 – An act relating to the establishment of an advanced opportunities program for certain students enrolled in public schools to take overload and dual credit courses, postsecondary credit-bearing and career and technical education certificate examinations, and career and technical education workforce training courses, and the award of a scholarship for early graduation. The bill was filed by Rep. John Wills (R-Spirit Lake) and was referred to the House Education Committee on 1/19.

Under the bill, each student enrolled and attending a public school in Iowa, beginning in grade 7, is eligible for \$4,125 to use toward overload courses, dual credits, postsecondary credit-bearing examinations, career and technical education certificate examinations, and career and technical education workforce training courses. Career and technical education workforce training courses, such as federally registered apprenticeships for which moneys may be used, shall not exceed \$500 per course or \$1,000 per year.

A student who has earned 15 postsecondary credits prior to secondary school graduation using the program must first identify postsecondary goals under the student's individualized career and academic plan before the student

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may continue to earn additional credits. The bill describes how school counselors must advise such students.

The Iowa Department of Education shall reimburse a school district or public postsecondary educational institution within 125 days of receiving the necessary data.

Participating school districts shall collaborate with public postsecondary educational institutions to assist students who seek to participate in the program and must report to the state board of education any difficulties or obstacles the school districts and institutions experience in providing such assistance.

No later than January 15th annually, the Iowa Department of Education shall submit a report to the General Assembly detailing the number of students benefitting from assistance with the cost of overload courses, dual credit courses, examinations, and workforce training courses, and the number of credits awarded and amounts paid during the previous school year.

For more information about the activity during the 2022 legislative session, please contact:

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