

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 675

5 By: Senator B. Davis  
6

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION  
9 COORDINATING BOARD; TO ESTABLISH THE TWO-YEAR HIGHER  
10 EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

12  
13 CONCERNING THE ARKANSAS HIGHER EDUCATION  
14 COORDINATING BOARD; AND TO ESTABLISH THE  
15 TWO-YEAR HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING  
16 BOARD.  
17  
18  
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-201(b)(1), concerning the appointment  
23 of individuals from recent or current boards of campuses to the Arkansas  
24 Higher Education Coordinating Board, is amended to read as follows:

25 (b)(1) After the appointment of the initial board, the members to be  
26 appointed from recent or current boards of ~~two-year and four-year~~ public  
27 campuses shall be appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the  
28 Senate.  
29

30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 6-61-202 is amended to read as follows:  
31 6-61-202. Powers and duties generally.

32 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
33 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
34 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
35 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
36 ~~following powers and duties~~ may:



1 (1)(A) ~~To receive~~ Receive, within one (1) year of ~~their~~ the  
2 appointment of its members and each year thereafter, a minimum of eight (8)  
3 clock hours of instruction and training, to include without limitation higher  
4 education issues, policies, laws, and the duties and responsibilities  
5 associated with the position of board member.

6 (B) The members of the boards of all ~~publicly supported~~  
7 state-supported four-year institutions of higher education shall receive  
8 similar instruction and training within one (1) year of their appointment or  
9 election and each year thereafter, which shall be conducted by the individual  
10 institutions;

11 (2) Along with its director, ~~to~~ be responsible, within fiscal  
12 and staff capabilities, for directing an integrated program for defining,  
13 popularizing, and securing acceptance of the major goals and objectives of  
14 higher education in Arkansas and for relating them to the state's various  
15 problems;

16 (3) ~~To request~~ Request and receive any information from the  
17 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher education  
18 as the board deems necessary for the performance of its duties;

19 (4) ~~To promulgate~~ Promulgate and adopt uniform definitions and  
20 forms in such matters as financial reporting, academic statistics, and  
21 resident status of students for use in making financial recommendations and  
22 standard enrollment data to be followed by the state-supported four-year  
23 institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education;

24 (5) ~~To determine~~ Determine the need for and recommend to the  
25 Governor and the General Assembly the establishment and location of any new  
26 state-supported four-year institutions of higher education and ~~to~~ recommend,  
27 when appropriate, changes in the names of existing state-supported supported  
28 four-year institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education;

29 (6) ~~To recommend~~ Recommend the level of funding and the method  
30 of distribution of state-supported scholarships and loan programs, and ~~to~~  
31 seek the cooperation of the state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
32 ~~learning~~ education to develop policies to coordinate all student loan and  
33 scholarship programs, including without limitation those federally financed;  
34 and

35 (7) ~~To review~~ Review all proposed bond issues to be made by any  
36 ~~public institution of higher learning~~ state-supported four-year institution

1 of higher education and ~~to~~ advise the board of trustees of each of the  
2 respective state-supported four-year institutions of higher education as to  
3 the economic feasibility ~~thereof~~ of proposed bond issues, as ~~set forth~~  
4 established in § 6-62-306.

5 (b) The board shall encourage the cooperation of private four-year  
6 institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education in its efforts to plan more  
7 effectively for the coordinated development of higher education in this  
8 state.

9  
10 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 6-61-204(b)(1), concerning the composition  
11 of the Presidents Council of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
12 Board, is amended to read as follows:

13 (b)(1) The Presidents Council shall be composed of all presidents and  
14 chancellors of ~~public two-year and four-year colleges and universities~~ state-  
15 supported four-year institutions of higher education.

16  
17 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 6-61-204(c)(1), concerning the Executive  
18 Council of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 (c)(1)(A) There is created the Executive Council, which shall be  
21 selected by the Presidents Council from its membership.

22 (B) The Executive Council shall consist of ~~four (4)~~  
23 ~~members from two-year campuses and four (4)~~ eight (8) members from four-year  
24 campuses.

25  
26 SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 6-61-207(a)(1), concerning the power of the  
27 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board's power to establish role and  
28 scope designations, is amended to read as follows:

29 (a)(1) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
30 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
31 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
32 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
33 ~~power and duty to~~ may establish, in consultation with college and university  
34 personnel, appropriate role and scope designations within which boards of  
35 trustees ~~must~~ shall operate the ~~institution or~~ state-supported four-year  
36 institutions of higher education under their jurisdiction.

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36

SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 6-61-208 is amended to read as follows:

6-61-208. New units of instruction, research, and public service.

(a)(1) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the power and duty to~~ may request, receive, evaluate, and approve proposals for all new units of instruction, research, and public service, consistent with established role and scope designations ~~which~~ that have been approved by the board of trustees and the president of ~~an~~ a state-supported four-year institution of higher education, and to determine, based upon established policies, whether new units of instruction, research, or public service are justified.

(2)(A) "Established policies" as used in this subsection means a written statement developed by the board in consultation with and upon the advice of representatives of each of the state's state-supported four-year institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education, which shall set forth the relevant criteria ~~which~~ that a proposal for a new unit of instruction ~~must~~ shall meet before its establishment by ~~an institution~~ a state-supported four-year institution of higher education is justified.

(B)(i) The term "new unit of instruction, research, or public service" used in this subsection includes establishment of a college, school, division, institute, center, department, new curricula, majors leading to a new degree program, or an extension service not presently included in the program of ~~the institution~~ a state-supported four-year institution of higher education.

(ii) ~~The term~~ "New unit of instruction, research, or public service" does not include reasonable and moderate extensions, as defined by the board, of existing curricular research or public service programs which have a direct relationship to existing programs at the several ~~public~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education.

(b) General revenues appropriated by the General Assembly shall not be expended for new programs that have not been recommended by the board.

SECTION 7. Arkansas Code § 6-61-209 is amended to read as follows:

1 6-61-209. Budgets.

2 In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
 3 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
 4 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
 5 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
 6 ~~following powers and duties~~ may:

7 (1)(A) ~~To review~~ Review, evaluate, and coordinate budget  
 8 requests for the state-supported four-year universities and colleges and  
 9 present to the General Assembly and to the Governor prior to each regular  
 10 session of the General Assembly a single budget report containing the  
 11 recommendations for separate appropriations to each of the respective  
 12 ~~institutions~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher education.

13 (B) The recommendations ~~will~~ under subdivision (1)(A) of  
 14 this section shall be consistent with a comprehensive master plan of  
 15 postsecondary education in Arkansas as developed by the board.

16 (C) The recommendations under subdivision (1)(A) of this  
 17 section, insofar as possible, ~~will~~ shall be based upon standard techniques of  
 18 objective measurement of need and unit cost figures arrived at through  
 19 comparative data secured from the several ~~institutions~~ state-supported four-  
 20 year institutions of higher education.

21 (D) Specific needs of ~~institutions~~ state-supported four-  
 22 year institutions of higher education based upon existing programs and  
 23 deficiencies ~~will~~ shall be given consideration when developing  
 24 recommendations under subdivision (1)(A) of this section; and

25 (2)(A) ~~To develop~~ Develop, in conjunction with the state-  
 26 supported four-year institutions of higher ~~learning~~ education, the Governor,  
 27 and the Legislative Council, a single set of budget forms ~~which will~~ that  
 28 shall be utilized by all parties in making requests and recommendations for  
 29 the funding of state-supported four-year colleges and universities  
 30 institutions of higher education.

31 (B) The forms and process ~~will~~ shall require that the  
 32 total income and expenditures of each institution ~~must~~ be considered in the  
 33 request process.

34  
 35 SECTION 8. Arkansas Code § 6-61-212 is amended to read as follows:  
 36 6-61-212. State agency for federal programs.

1 In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
 2 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
 3 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
 4 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
 5 ~~power and duty to~~ may serve as the state agency ~~of this state~~ for such  
 6 federal programs ~~which~~ that can most appropriately be administered by it.

7  
 8 SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 6-61-213(a), concerning the provision of  
 9 administrative assistance by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
 10 Board, is amended to read as follows:

11 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
 12 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
 13 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
 14 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
 15 ~~power and duty to~~ may provide administrative assistance in accordance with  
 16 terms agreed upon by both the Department of Higher Education and parties  
 17 establishing trusts, endowments, or otherwise providing funds in support of  
 18 scholarships, research, or other educational activities at state-supported  
 19 four-year ~~Arkansas~~ institutions of higher education.

20  
 21 SECTION 10. Arkansas Code § 6-61-214(a), concerning review of academic  
 22 degree programs by the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board, is  
 23 amended to read as follows:

24 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
 25 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
 26 ~~publicly supported~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher  
 27 education, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board ~~shall have the~~  
 28 ~~power and duty to~~ may establish minimum standards of quality and cost  
 29 effectiveness and review each existing academic degree program in the ~~state~~  
 30 state-supported four-year institutions of higher education at least every ten  
 31 (10) years but no more frequently than every seven (7) years.

32  
 33 SECTION 11. Arkansas Code § 6-61-215 is amended to read as follows:  
 34 6-61-215. Student tuition and fees – Reporting.

35 Annually, by July 1, the Department of Higher Education shall report  
 36 the tuition and mandatory fees charged to students, including without

1 limitation all changes to tuition and mandatory fees, for each state-  
 2 supported four-year institution of higher education to the House Committee on  
 3 Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

4  
 5 SECTION 12. Arkansas Code § 6-61-221 is amended to read as follows:

6 6-61-221. Reporting of graduates requiring postsecondary remediation.

7 (a)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall collect information  
 8 necessary to prepare reports of college achievement of high school graduates  
 9 from each state-supported four-year institution of higher education.

10 (2) The Department of Higher Education may contract with  
 11 appropriate organizations for the preparation of the reports.

12 (b) The Department of Higher Education and the Office of  
 13 Accountability of the Department of Education shall work together to develop  
 14 a compatible system of reporting the number of:

15 (1) Students who required remediation during their first year of  
 16 enrollment in a state-supported four-year institution of higher education if  
 17 the enrollment occurred within two (2) years of graduation from a secondary  
 18 school in this state;

19 (2) Students who required remediation and who graduated:

20 (A) With a 3.0 or higher grade point average on a 4.0  
 21 scale; and

22 (B) From a public high school after completing the:

23 (i) Program of the minimum core of high school  
 24 courses recommended for preparation for postsecondary education by the  
 25 Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education  
 26 ~~pursuant to~~ under § 6-61-217 known as "Smart Core"; or

27 (ii) Non-Smart Core curriculum; and

28 (3) Attempts it takes a student to pass a postsecondary remedial  
 29 ~~course, beginning in the 2011-2012 school year.~~

30 (c)(1) The compilation report generated by the Department of Higher  
 31 Education under this section shall not include individual student information  
 32 if the information is reported in a manner that would identify a particular  
 33 student.

34 (2) Any information gathered that identifies a particular  
 35 student shall be confidential.

36 (d)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall include the reports

1 developed under this section annually in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher  
2 Education Annual Report and provide an electronic copy to the:

- 3 (A) Department of Education;
- 4 (B) Department of Career Education;
- 5 (C) Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board;
- 6 (D) Governor;
- 7 (E) House Committee on Education;
- 8 (F) Senate Committee on Education;
- 9 (G) State Board of Education; and
- 10 (H) School district administrators for each public high

11 school.

12 (2) The reports developed under this section shall be prepared  
13 on or before October 1 each year and include the cost of remediation for each  
14 state-supported four-year institution of higher education, which shall be  
15 submitted to the Department of Higher Education according to standards  
16 developed by the Department of Higher Education and shall include for each  
17 state-supported four-year institution of higher education:

- 18 (A) The amount of institutional revenue spent on  
19 remediation;
- 20 (B) The total general revenue subsidy spent on  
21 remediation;
- 22 (C) The total institutional expenditure for remediation;  
23 and
- 24 (D) The general revenue percentage of total expenditures  
25 for remediation.

26 (3) The report required under this subsection shall be separate  
27 from the uniform reporting standards report required under § 6-61-222.

28  
29 SECTION 13. Arkansas Code § 6-61-222(a)(1) and (2), concerning the  
30 development of uniform reporting standards by the Arkansas Higher Education  
31 Coordinating Board, ~~is~~ are amended to read as follows:

32 (a)(1) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board is authorized  
33 and directed to establish uniform reporting standards to report biennially  
34 all current funds' revenues and expenditures associated with each academic  
35 department and, within each department, with the academic programs offered at  
36 each state-supported four-year institution of higher education.



1           (2) ~~Such~~ The reports required under subdivision (a)(1) of this  
2 section shall be subject to biennial review by the board and House Committee  
3 on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

4  
5           SECTION 14. Arkansas Code § 6-61-226 is amended to read as follows:

6           6-61-226. Guidelines for course review.

7           (a)(1) ~~Arkansas public colleges and universities~~ State-supported four-  
8 year institutions of higher education shall submit to the Arkansas Higher  
9 Education Coordinating Board an application for courses to be included in the  
10 state minimum core curriculum.

11           (2) Courses submitted under subdivision (a)(1) of this section  
12 shall be reviewed and recommended by a peer review project team established  
13 in the discipline.

14           (b)(1)(A) The Department of Higher Education shall establish peer  
15 review project teams composed of faculty members of ~~Arkansas universities and~~  
16 ~~two-year colleges~~ state-supported four-year institutions of higher education.

17           (B)(i) The peer review project team for each discipline  
18 shall include no fewer than four (4) faculty members ~~equally divided between~~  
19 ~~two-year and four-year institutions~~ who teach in the discipline.

20           (ii) Members shall be appointed by a majority vote  
21 of the Executive Council established under this subchapter.

22           (2)(A) The peer review project team for each discipline shall  
23 review and recommend to the department courses in the applicable discipline  
24 to be recommended to the board for inclusion in the curriculum.

25           (B)(i) Courses not receiving a recommendation by the peer  
26 review project team shall receive from the peer review project team suggested  
27 improvements or revisions for the course or its application.

28           (ii) ~~Colleges and universities~~ State-supported four-  
29 year institutions of higher education may resubmit course applications to the  
30 peer review project team if the original application is not recommended to  
31 the board after appropriate adjustments have been made based on the suggested  
32 improvements or revisions from the peer review project team.

33  
34           SECTION 15. Arkansas Code § 6-61-227 is amended to read as follows:

35           6-61-227. Annual transfer credit report.

36           All state-supported four-year public institutions of higher education

1 and any participating four-year private institutions of higher education  
 2 shall file a report annually with the Department of Higher Education  
 3 identifying the number of students who requested transfer credit for a  
 4 completed course in the state minimum core curriculum but were not given  
 5 credit.

6  
 7 SECTION 16. Arkansas Code § 6-61-232 is amended to read as follows:  
 8 6-61-232. Maximum semester hours required for a degree program.

9 ~~(a)(1) An associate degree program shall require no more than sixty~~  
 10 ~~(60) semester hours of lower division college credit, which may be satisfied~~  
 11 ~~by completing the state minimum core curriculum under § 6-61-231.~~

12 ~~(2) An associate degree program may require more than sixty (60)~~  
 13 ~~semester hours of lower division college credit if prior approval has been~~  
 14 ~~granted by the board of trustees of the state-supported institution of higher~~  
 15 ~~education and the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.~~

16 ~~(b)(1)(a)(1)~~ A baccalaureate degree program shall require no more than  
 17 one hundred twenty (120) semester hours of college credit, which shall  
 18 include without limitation the state minimum core curriculum under § 6-61-  
 19 231.

20 (2) A baccalaureate degree program may require more than one  
 21 hundred twenty (120) semester hours of college credit if:

22 (A) Prior approval has been granted by the board of  
 23 trustees of the state-supported four-year institution of higher education and  
 24 the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board; or

25 (B) It is a requirement of an independent licensing or  
 26 accrediting body.

27 ~~(e)(b)~~ All required coursework shall count toward the ~~associate of~~  
 28 ~~arts degree, associate of science degree, associate of arts in teaching~~  
 29 ~~degree, or~~ selected baccalaureate degrees.

30  
 31 SECTION 17. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 61, is amended to add an  
 32 additional subchapter to read as follows:

33 Subchapter 17 – Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board

34  
 35 6-61-1701. Members – Meetings.

36 (a)(1) The Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board shall consist

1 of nine (9) members appointed by the Governor as follows:

2 (A)(i) Three (3) members shall be selected from the  
3 current or recent membership of the boards of state-supported two-year  
4 institutions of higher education.

5 (ii) If a person selected under subdivision  
6 (a)(1)(A)(i) of this section is serving on the membership of the board of a  
7 public two-year campus, the person shall relinquish his or her membership on  
8 the board; and

9 (B)(i) Six (6) members shall be selected from business,  
10 industry, education, agriculturally related industry, and medical services  
11 and shall not be current members of a board of a public two-year campus.

12 (ii) At least one (1) of the appointees shall have a  
13 strong interest in and commitment to economic and workforce development.

14 (iii) At least one (1) of the appointees shall have  
15 experience in a knowledge-based technology field.

16 (2) No more than three (3) members of the board shall be  
17 appointed from any one (1) congressional district as the districts exist at  
18 the time of the appointment.

19 (3) No more than one (1) member of the board at any one (1) time  
20 shall be a graduate of a program of any one (1) state-supported two-year  
21 institutions of higher education.

22 (b)(1) After the appointment of the initial board, the members to be  
23 appointed from recent or current boards of state-supported two-year  
24 institutions of higher education under this section shall be appointed by the  
25 Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate.

26 (2) The Governor shall consult the Two-Year Presidents Council  
27 before making an appointment under this section.

28 (c) Vacancies on the board shall be filled for the unexpired terms,  
29 and the appointments shall be made in the same manner as the positions  
30 vacated.

31 (d)(1) The members of the board shall serve staggered terms of six (6)  
32 years.

33 (2) The terms of three (3) members shall expire each year.

34 (3) The members may serve no more than two (2) terms.

35 (e) An intensive orientation program designed by the council shall be  
36 mandatory for board members.

1       (f) The board annually shall elect from its membership a chair and  
2 other officers necessary to carry on its business.

3       (g)(1) The board shall meet at least one (1) time during each calendar  
4 quarter and at other times upon the call of the chair or of any other four  
5 (4) members.

6       (2) The board shall, at the times that it desires, meet on any  
7 campus of a state-supported two-year or four-year institution of public  
8 education in this state.

9       (h) Members of the board shall serve without compensation but may  
10 receive expense reimbursement in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.

11  
12       6-61-1702. Powers and duties generally.

13       (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
14 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
15 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
16 Higher Education Coordinating Board may:

17       (1)(A) Receive within one (1) year of the appointment of its  
18 members and each year thereafter a minimum of eight (8) clock hours of  
19 instruction and training, to include higher education issues, policies, laws,  
20 and the duties and responsibilities associated with the position of board  
21 member.

22       (B) The members of the boards of all state-supported two-  
23 year institutions of higher education shall receive similar instruction and  
24 training within one (1) year of their appointment or election and each year  
25 thereafter, which shall be conducted by each respective state-supported two-  
26 year institution of higher education;

27       (2) Along with its director, be responsible, within fiscal and  
28 staff capabilities, for directing an integrated program for defining,  
29 popularizing, and securing acceptance of the major goals and objectives of  
30 higher education in Arkansas and for relating them to the state's various  
31 problems;

32       (3) Request and receive any information from the state-supported  
33 two-year institutions of higher education as the board deems necessary for  
34 the performance of its duties;

35       (4) Promulgate and adopt uniform definitions and forms in such  
36 matters as financial reporting, academic statistics, and resident status of

1 students for use in making financial recommendations and standard enrollment  
2 data to be followed by the state-supported two-year institutions of higher  
3 education;

4 (5) Determine the need for and recommend to the Governor and the  
5 General Assembly the establishment and location of any new state-supported  
6 two-year institutions of higher education and to recommend, when appropriate,  
7 changes in the names of existing state-supported two-year institutions of  
8 higher education;

9 (6) Recommend the level of funding and the method of  
10 distribution of state-supported two-year institution of higher education  
11 scholarships and loan programs, and to seek the cooperation of the state-  
12 supported two-year institutions of higher education to develop policies to  
13 coordinate all student loan and scholarship programs, including those  
14 federally financed; and

15 (7) Review all proposed bond issues to be made by any state-  
16 supported two-year institution of higher education and to advise the board of  
17 trustees of each of the respective state-supported two-year institutions of  
18 higher education as to the economic feasibility thereof, as set forth in § 6-  
19 62-306.

20 (b) The board shall encourage the cooperation of private two-year  
21 institutions of higher education in its efforts to plan more effectively for  
22 the coordinated development of higher education in this state.

23  
24 6-61-1703. Director and staff – Funds – Central office.

25 (a)(1)(A) The Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board shall  
26 appoint a director through a search and selection process that includes  
27 substantial input, review, and recommendation from the Two-Year Presidents  
28 Council, subject to confirmation by the Governor.

29 (B) The Director of the Two-Year Higher Education  
30 Coordinating Board shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

31 (2)(A) The director and other staff employed by the board shall  
32 demonstrate competence in the field of institutional management or agency  
33 management, institutional finance, financial aid, or institutional research.

34 (B) The director shall exhibit advanced coordination and  
35 communication skills.

36 (b) The salary of the director and other members of the staff employed

1 by the board shall be comparable to the positions requiring similar  
2 qualifications and experience.

3 (c) The staff of the board shall be under the direction and  
4 supervision of the director.

5 (d) The board shall be provided sufficient operating funds to enable  
6 it to carry out adequately the programs and functions assigned to the  
7 Department of Higher Education.

8 (e) The central office of the board shall be maintained in Little  
9 Rock.

10 (f)(1) The board shall evaluate the director annually.

11 (2) The Two-Year Presidents Council shall provide to the board  
12 an evaluation report of the department and the director at least annually.

13  
14 6-61-1704. Advisory committees and councils.

15 (a) The Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Two-Year  
16 Presidents Council may establish advisory committees and councils for the  
17 effective development and coordination of two-year higher education in this  
18 state.

19 (b)(1) The Two-Year Presidents Council shall be composed of all  
20 presidents and chancellors of state-supported two-year institutions of higher  
21 education.

22 (2) The Two-Year Presidents Council shall meet at least  
23 quarterly.

24 (3) The Two-Year Presidents Council shall serve in a strong  
25 advisory capacity to the Director of the Two-Year Higher Education  
26 Coordinating Board and to the board.

27 (4) All board items shall be reviewed by the Two-Year Presidents  
28 Council before being placed on the board's agenda.

29 (c)(1)(A) There is created the Executive Council, the members of which  
30 shall be selected by the Two-Year Presidents Council from its membership.

31 (B) The Executive Council shall consist of four (4)  
32 members from the board.

33 (2) Executive Council members shall serve for staggered terms of  
34 two (2) years.

35 (3) The Executive Council shall:

36 (A) Elect officers as it deems necessary; and

1                   (B) Meet at least monthly with the director and senior  
2 staff.

3                   (4)(A) All items to be considered as board agenda items shall be  
4 reviewed by the Executive Council before being placed on any board agenda.

5                   (B) In the event that the director and staff are not in  
6 agreement with the Executive Council on a matter to be considered by the  
7 board, the Executive Council's recommendation shall be placed on the board  
8 agenda automatically for a presentation and explanation of the Executive  
9 Council's position, and the board will thereafter make its decision in  
10 consideration of both the position of the board and the position of the Two-  
11 Year Executive Council.

12                  (d)(1)(A) A working committee structure shall be established involving  
13 the Two-Year Presidents Council or its designees.

14                  (B) Examples of possible committees include, but are not  
15 limited to, accountability, graduate studies, undergraduate studies,  
16 workforce development, continuing education, financial and funding.

17                  (2) The committees shall make recommendations to the Two-Year  
18 Presidents Council and the director when policy or funding issues are to be  
19 decided.

20                  (3) The Department of Higher Education employees shall staff  
21 each committee.

22  
23                  6-61-1705. Master plan.

24                  (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of two-year higher  
25 education in Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of  
26 each of the state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the  
27 Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board may accept responsibility for  
28 continuous master planning.

29                  (b)(1) The board shall appoint a broadly representative advisory  
30 committee in the development of a comprehensive master plan for all two-year  
31 postsecondary education and shall continually use the advisory committee to  
32 keep the master plan updated.

33                  (2) Broad citizen participation shall be sought by the board in  
34 the development of the plan required under subdivision (b)(1) of this  
35 section.

36

1           6-61-1706. Studies, surveys, evaluations, etc.

2           In order to promote a coordinated system of two-year higher education  
3 in Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
4 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
5 Higher Education Coordinating Board may conduct:

6                   (1) Studies, surveys, and evaluations regarding two-year  
7 postsecondary education, including without limitation:

8                           (A) Studies of:

9                                   (i) Space utilization and development of guidelines  
10 for space utilization;

11                                   (ii) Personnel and staffing needs and their  
12 implications for program development; and

13                                   (iii) Programs for purposes of identifying and  
14 reducing unnecessary program duplication and identifying needs for new  
15 programs;

16                           (B) Analyses of:

17                                   (i) Class size, faculty loads, and cost of  
18 instruction, sabbatical leave, and other fringe benefits; and

19                                   (ii) Enrollments, extension programs, sources of  
20 students, and retention of students; and

21                           (C) Recommendations to state-supported two-year  
22 institutions of higher education regarding plans and needed improvements for  
23 the state-supported two-year institutions of higher education; and

24                   (2) Continuing studies regarding state-supported two-year  
25 institutions of higher education as the bases for recommendations submitted  
26 to the Governor, the General Assembly, and each state-supported two-year  
27 institution of higher education.

28  
29           6-61-1707. Role and scope designations.

30           (a)(1) In order to promote a coordinated system of two-year higher  
31 education in Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of  
32 each of the state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the  
33 Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish, in consultation  
34 with personnel of state-supported two-year institutions of higher education,  
35 appropriate role and scope designations within which state-supported two-year  
36 institutions of higher education boards of trustees shall operate the state-



1 supported two-year institutions of higher education.

2 (2) The role and scope designations established under  
3 subdivision (a)(1) of this section shall be reviewed at least once every five  
4 (5) years.

5 (3) Before establishing or making a change in role and scope  
6 designations under subdivision (a)(1) of this section, the board shall:

7 (A) Study the change in consultation with institutional  
8 personnel;

9 (B) Announce the board's intent to consider a change; and

10 (C) Publicly reveal the change that is being proposed at a  
11 regular quarterly meeting, with the vote to happen no sooner than the board's  
12 next regular quarterly meeting.

13 (b) To assist the board and the Department of Higher Education in the  
14 effort to promote a coordinated system of two-year higher education in  
15 Arkansas that addresses and responds to the changing economic needs of the  
16 state and the new economy, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission shall  
17 provide the department a list of the state's overall and regional economic  
18 development goals by September 1 of each year.

19 (c)(1) The department may retain the services of consultants or other  
20 experts as may be necessary to carry out a review of information provided  
21 under subsection (b) of this section, and the department staff shall work  
22 directly with the consultants to handle the logistics of needed discussion  
23 groups, meeting minutes, and recommendation dissemination.

24 (2) The review process under subdivision (c)(1) of this section  
25 shall include without limitation an opportunity for state-supported two-year  
26 institutions of higher education to provide input, as well as a time for  
27 public and business comment.

28 (3) Upon completion of the review under subdivision (c)(1) of  
29 this section, the department shall provide a report regarding its findings to  
30 the board, the Governor, the cochairs of the Legislative Council, and the  
31 Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research.

32 (4) The requirements for a review under this section shall be  
33 contingent upon the appropriation and availability of funding for that  
34 purpose.

35  
36 6-61-1708. New units of instruction, research, and public service.

1       (a)(1) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
2 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
3 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
4 Higher Education Coordinating Board may:

5               (A) Request, receive, evaluate, and approve proposals for  
6 all new units of instruction, research, and public service, consistent with  
7 role and scope designations established and approved by the board of trustees  
8 and the president of each state-supported two-year institution of higher  
9 education under § 6-61-1707;

10              (B)(i) Determine, based upon established policies, whether  
11 new units of instruction, research, or public service are necessary.

12                      (ii) "Established policies" as used in this  
13 subsection means a written statement developed by the board in consultation  
14 with and upon the advice of representatives of each of the state-supported  
15 two-year institutions of higher education; and

16              (C)(i) Create the relevant criteria that a proposal for a  
17 new unit of instruction shall meet before its establishment by a state-  
18 supported two-year institution of higher education is deemed necessary.

19                      (ii) "New unit of instruction, research, or public  
20 service" as used in this subsection includes the establishment of a college,  
21 a school, a division, an institute, a center, a department, new curricula,  
22 majors leading to a new degree program, or an extension service not presently  
23 included in the program of the state-supported two-year institution of higher  
24 education.

25                      (iii) "New unit of instruction, research, or public  
26 service" does not include reasonable and moderate extensions, as defined by  
27 the board, of existing curricular research or public service programs that  
28 have a direct relationship to existing programs at a state-supported two-year  
29 institution of higher education.

30       (b) General revenues appropriated by the General Assembly shall not be  
31 expended for new programs that have not been recommended by the board.

32  
33       6-61-1709. Budgets.

34       In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
35 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
36 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year

1 Higher Education Coordinating Board may:

2 (1)(A) Review, evaluate, and coordinate budget requests for the  
3 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education and present to the  
4 General Assembly and to the Governor before each regular session of the  
5 General Assembly a single budget report containing the recommendations for  
6 separate appropriations to each state-supported two-year institution of  
7 higher education.

8 (B) The recommendations under subdivision (1)(A) of this  
9 section shall be:

10 (i) Consistent with a comprehensive master plan of  
11 two-year postsecondary education in Arkansas as developed by the board; and

12 (ii) Based upon standard techniques of objective  
13 measurement of need and unit cost figures arrived at through comparative data  
14 secured from the state-supported two-year institutions of higher education.

15 (C) Specific needs of state-supported two-year  
16 institutions of higher education based upon existing programs and  
17 deficiencies shall be given consideration; and

18 (2)(A) Develop, in conjunction with the state-supported two-year  
19 institutions of higher education, the Governor, and the Legislative Council,  
20 a single set of budget forms that shall be utilized by all parties in making  
21 requests and recommendations for the funding of state-supported two-year  
22 institutions of higher education.

23 (B) The forms and process shall require that the total  
24 income and expenditures of each state-supported two-year institution of  
25 higher education be considered in the request process.

26  
27 6-61-1710. State agency for federal programs.

28 In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
29 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
30 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
31 Higher Education Coordinating Board may serve as a state agency for federal  
32 programs that can most appropriately be administered by the board.

33  
34 6-61-1711. Administration of trusts, endowments, etc.

35 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
36 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the

1 state-supported two year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
2 Higher Education Coordinating Board may provide administrative assistance in  
3 accordance with terms agreed upon by both the Department of Higher Education  
4 and parties establishing trusts, endowments, or otherwise providing funds in  
5 support of scholarships, research, or other educational activities at state-  
6 supported two-year institutions of higher education.

7 (b) The department shall not be the custodian of, or in any way  
8 participate in, the financial management of trusts, endowments, or other  
9 funds established for purposes of §§ 6-61-101 – 6-61-103, 6-61-201 – 6-61-  
10 209, 6-61-212 – 6-61-216, 6-61-301 – 6-61-305, 6-61-401, 6-61-402, 6-61-501 –  
11 6-61-524, and 6-61-601 – 6-61-603.

12 (c)(1) The assistance of the department is limited to administrative  
13 support in the allocation or awarding of funds to be disbursed by the donor  
14 or a properly authorized trustee.

15 (2) The department may supplement administrative costs for such  
16 assistance by charging a minimal administrative fee acceptable to the  
17 department and the parties establishing the endowments or providing the  
18 funds.

19  
20 6-61-1712. Review of existing degree programs – Minimum standards.

21 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
22 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
23 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
24 Higher Education Coordinating Board may:

25 (1) Establish minimum standards of quality and cost  
26 effectiveness; and

27 (2) Review each existing academic degree program in the state-  
28 supported two-year institutions of higher education at least every ten (10)  
29 years but no more frequently than every seven (7) years.

30 (b)(1) Existing academic degree programs under subdivision (a)(2) of  
31 this section shall be certified as having met established standards for  
32 quality and cost effectiveness under subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

33 (2)(A) If an academic degree program under subdivision (a)(2) of  
34 this section is not certified as having met established standards, the  
35 academic degree program shall be placed on two-year probationary status.

36 (B) During the probationary period under subdivision

1 (b)(2)(A) of this section, at the request of the state-supported two-year  
2 institution of higher education, the board shall provide guidance to the  
3 state-supported two-year institution of higher education in an attempt to  
4 qualify the academic degree programs to meet the minimum standards for  
5 quality and cost effectiveness required under subdivision (a)(1) of this  
6 section.

7 (c) At the end of the two-year probationary period under subdivision  
8 (b)(2)(A) of this section, the board shall make recommendations concerning  
9 the continuation, termination, or extended probation of the academic degree  
10 program of the affected state-supported two-year institution of higher  
11 education to the:

12 (1) Affected state-supported two-year institution of higher  
13 education;

14 (2) Governor; and

15 (3) General Assembly.

16 (d)(1) General revenues shall not be expended for operation of  
17 academic degree programs beyond the deadline set by the board without the  
18 specific approval of the General Assembly.

19 (2) The deadline under subdivision (d)(1) of this section shall  
20 coincide with the end of the biennium.

21  
22 6-61-1713. Student tuition and fees – Reporting.

23 Annually, by July 1, the Department of Higher Education shall report  
24 the tuition and mandatory fees charged to students, including without  
25 limitation all changes to tuition and mandatory fees, for each state-  
26 supported two-year institution of higher education to the House Committee on  
27 Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

28  
29 6-61-1714. Transfer students.

30 (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
31 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each of the  
32 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education, the Two-Year  
33 Higher Education Coordinating Board may develop, with the assistance of  
34 institutional advisory committees, policies for transfers of students:

35 (1) From state-supported two-year institutions of higher  
36 education to state-supported four-year institutions of higher education;

1           (2) Among institutions of the same type; and

2           (3) From vocational and technical schools to other institutions.

3           (b) The policies required under subsection (a) of this section shall:

4           (1) Be part of the comprehensive master plan of a state-  
5 supported two-year institution of higher education; and

6           (2) Receive review from appropriate citizens throughout the  
7 state before adoption by the board for their recommendation to the boards of  
8 trustees of state-supported two-year institutions of higher education.

9  
10          6-61-1715. Minimum core courses for college preparation.

11          (a) In order to promote a coordinated system of higher education in  
12 Arkansas and to assure an orderly and effective development of each state-  
13 supported institution of higher education, the Arkansas Higher Education  
14 Coordinating Board, after consultation with the State Board of Education and  
15 the Department of Higher Education, shall identify a minimum core of high  
16 school courses recommended for preparation for college.

17          (b) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall communicate  
18 this information identified under subsection (a) of this section at least  
19 annually to public school superintendents, who shall make copies available  
20 each year to public school students enrolled in grades seven through twelve  
21 (7-12).

22          (c) The Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board may revise the  
23 list of minimum core high school courses required under subsection (a) of  
24 this section from time to time, as needed.

25  
26          6-61-1716. Minimum college core – Transferability.

27          To promote a coordinated system of higher education in Arkansas and to  
28 assure an orderly and effective development of each of the state-supported  
29 institutions of higher education, the Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating  
30 Board shall establish, in consultation with state-supported two-year  
31 institutions of higher education, a minimum core of courses that shall:

32           (1) Apply toward the general education core curriculum  
33 requirements for degrees at state-supported two-year institutions of higher  
34 education; and

35           (2) Be fully transferable among all state-supported two-year  
36 institutions of higher education.

1  
2 6-61-1717. Retention and graduation rate information.

3 (a) Accurate information about the retention and graduation rates of  
4 students at state-supported two-year institutions of higher education is  
5 necessary in order for the Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board,  
6 boards of trustees of state-supported two-year institutions of higher  
7 education, the General Assembly, and faculty members and administrators of  
8 state-supported two-year institutions of higher education to make informed  
9 decisions related to the coordination, governance, financing, and academic  
10 policies of two-year higher education in Arkansas.

11 (b)(1) The Department of Higher Education, in consultation with state-  
12 supported two-year institutions of higher education, shall recommend a system  
13 for the collection of information necessary under subsection (a) of this  
14 section for the board, the Governor, the House Committee on Education, the  
15 Senate Committee on Education, and state-supported two-year institutions of  
16 higher education.

17 (2) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section,  
18 officials of state-supported two-year institutions of higher education shall  
19 provide to the department the information requested by the department by  
20 December 1 of each year, beginning in 2020.

21 (3)(A) For the purpose of analysis by the Bureau of Legislative  
22 Research to guide the General Assembly's evaluation of the need for  
23 adjustments to eligibility and funding levels for state-supported student  
24 financial assistance, the Office of Accountability of the Department of  
25 Education shall provide annually to the bureau all individual student  
26 demographic and test result data on ACT or ACT-equivalent college placement  
27 exams.

28 (B) The office shall provide the data under subdivision  
29 (b)(3)(A) of this section in a database or spreadsheet format that omits  
30 personally identifiable information.

31 (c) Subject to an adequate appropriation for the personnel and  
32 equipment necessary to implement the procedure required under subdivision  
33 (b)(1) of this section, the Department of Higher Education shall collect the  
34 information necessary under subsection (a) of this section and report its  
35 findings to the board, the Governor, the committees established under § 6-61-  
36 1704, and state-supported institutions of higher education by May 1 of each

1 year, beginning in 2020.

2 (d) The board is hereby authorized to promulgate rules consistent with  
3 the intent and purpose of this section.

4  
5 6-61-1718. Reporting of graduates requiring postsecondary remediation.

6 (a)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall collect information  
7 necessary to prepare reports of postsecondary achievement of high school  
8 graduates from each state-supported two-year institution of higher education.

9 (2) The Department of Higher Education may contract with  
10 appropriate organizations for the preparation of the reports required under  
11 subdivision (a)(1) of this section.

12 (b) The Department of Higher Education and the Office of  
13 Accountability of the Department of Education shall work together to develop  
14 a compatible system of reporting the number of:

15 (1) Students who required remediation during their first year of  
16 enrollment in a state-supported two-year institution of higher education if  
17 the enrollment occurred within two (2) years of graduation from a secondary  
18 school in this state;

19 (2) Students who required remediation and who graduated:

20 (A) With a 3.0 or higher grade point average on a 4.0  
21 scale from a state-supported two-year institution of higher education; and

22 (B) From a public high school after completing:

23 (i) A program of the minimum core of high school  
24 courses recommended for preparation for postsecondary education by the Two-  
25 Year Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education  
26 under § 6-61-1715; or

27 (ii) A non-Smart Core curriculum; and

28 (3) The number of attempts required for each student to pass a  
29 postsecondary remedial course, beginning in the 2019-2020 school year.

30 (c)(1) The compilation report required under subdivision (a)(1) of  
31 this section generated by the Department of Higher Education shall not  
32 include individual student information if the information is reported in a  
33 manner that would identify a particular student.

34 (2) Any information gathered that identifies a particular  
35 student shall is confidential.

36 (d)(1) The Department of Higher Education shall include the reports



1 developed under this section annually in the Comprehensive Arkansas Higher  
 2 Education Annual Report and provide an electronic copy to the:

3 (A) Department of Education;

4 (B) Department of Career Education;

5 (C) Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board;

6 (D) Governor;

7 (E) House Committee on Education;

8 (F) Senate Committee on Education;

9 (G) State Board of Education; and

10 (H) School district administrators for each public high  
 11 school.

12 (2) The reports developed under this section shall be prepared  
 13 on or before October 1 each year and include without limitation the cost of  
 14 remediation for each state-supported two-year institution of higher  
 15 education, which shall be submitted to the Department of Higher Education  
 16 according to standards developed by the Department of Higher Education and  
 17 shall include for each state-supported two-year institution of higher  
 18 education:

19 (A) The amount of institutional revenue spent on  
 20 remediation;

21 (B) The total general revenue subsidy spent on  
 22 remediation;

23 (C) The total institutional expenditure for remediation;  
 24 and

25 (D) The general revenue percentage of total expenditures  
 26 for remediation.

27 (3) The report required under this section shall be separate  
 28 from the uniform reporting standards report required under § 6-61-1719.

29  
 30 6-61-1719. Uniform reporting standards.

31 (a)(1) The Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board may establish  
 32 uniform reporting standards to report biennially all current funds' revenues  
 33 and expenditures associated with each academic department and, within each  
 34 department, with the academic programs offered at each state-supported two-  
 35 year institution of higher education.

36 (2) The reports required under subdivision (a)(1) of this

1 section shall be subject to biennial review by the board and House Committee  
2 on Education and the Senate Committee on Education.

3 (3) The reports shall be predicated on the following  
4 definitions:

5 (A) "Academic department" means each organizational and  
6 budgetary unit associated with the delivery of instruction, research, or  
7 public service activities;

8 (B) "Academic program" means any program of study leading  
9 to a degree or certificate and any other program as defined by the Department  
10 of Higher Education;

11 (C) "Academic department and program revenues" means  
12 tuition and fees, both undergraduate and graduate, endowments, gifts and  
13 grants, sponsored research, and all other revenues associated with each  
14 academic department and with specific academic programs;

15 (D)(i) "Academic department and program expenditures"  
16 means all direct and prorated indirect expenses.

17 (ii) Direct expenses include faculty salaries, staff  
18 salaries, fringe benefits, scholarships and fellowships, graduate stipends  
19 and graduate assistant tuition, student labor, materials and supplies,  
20 equipment, travel, and telephone expenses.

21 (iii) Indirect expenses include central  
22 administrative management, institution-wide services, departmental  
23 administration, student services, research, indirect cost recovery, public  
24 services and information, financial aid, plant operations and maintenance,  
25 utilities, debt service, nonmandatory transfers, and all other indirect  
26 expenses.

27 (iv) Total academic department and program  
28 expenditures shall equal the current funds' expenditures as reported in the  
29 institution's financial statement;

30 (E) "State subsidy" means that within each academic  
31 department, any difference between academic program revenues and academic  
32 program expenditures shall be determined to be the "state subsidy" of that  
33 academic program; and

34 (F) "Productivity by academic program" means the number of  
35 declared majors, the number of undergraduate and graduate student semester  
36 credit hours produced, and the number of degrees and certificates conferred

1 in each program.

2 (4) The board may promulgate rules necessary for the  
3 implementation of this section and shall report to the House Committee on  
4 Education and the Senate Committee on Education the failure of a state-  
5 supported two-year institution of higher education to comply with the  
6 provisions of this section.

7 (b)(1) By September 15 of each year, all state-supported two-year  
8 institutions of higher education shall report academic department and program  
9 revenues, expenditures, and productivity utilizing the uniform report  
10 established by the board.

11 (2) The academic department and program report required under  
12 this section shall identify programs that produce fewer graduates than are  
13 required to meet the degree productivity standards set by the board.

14 (3) The board shall review the reports required under this  
15 section and submit them to the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
16 Committee on Education by January 15 of each odd-numbered year, beginning in  
17 January 2021.

18 (c) The board may establish uniform reporting standards to report any  
19 other information that may be required to meet any other state or federal  
20 statutory or regulatory requirements.

21 (d) The report required under this section shall be separate from the  
22 reports required under § 6-61-1718.

23  
24 6-61-1720. Guidelines for course review.

25 (a)(1) A state-supported two-year institution of higher education  
26 shall submit to the Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board an  
27 application for courses to be included in the state minimum core curriculum.

28 (2) Courses shall be reviewed and recommended by a peer review  
29 project team established in the discipline.

30 (b)(1)(A) The Department of Higher Education shall establish peer  
31 review project teams composed of faculty members of state-supported two-year  
32 institutions of higher education.

33 (B)(i) The peer review project team for each discipline  
34 shall include no fewer than four (4) faculty members who teach in the  
35 discipline.

36 (ii) Members shall be appointed by a majority vote

1 of the Two-Year Higher Education Presidents Council's established under this  
2 subchapter.

3 (2)(A) The peer review project team for each discipline shall  
4 review and recommend to the department courses in the applicable discipline  
5 to be recommended to the board for inclusion in the curriculum.

6 (B)(i) Courses not receiving a recommendation by the peer  
7 review project team under this section shall receive from the peer review  
8 project team suggested improvements or revisions for the course or its  
9 application.

10 (ii) A state-supported two-year institution of  
11 higher education may resubmit course applications to the peer review project  
12 team if the original application is not recommended to the board after  
13 appropriate adjustments have been made based on the suggested improvements or  
14 revisions from the peer review project team.

15  
16 6-61-1721. Annual transfer credit report.

17 A state-supported two-year institution of higher education shall file a  
18 report annually with the Department of Higher Education identifying the  
19 number of students who requested transfer credit for a completed course in  
20 the state minimum core curriculum but were not given credit.

21  
22 6-61-1722. Maximum semester hours required for a degree program.

23 (a)(1) An associate degree program shall require no more than sixty  
24 (60) semester hours of credit.

25 (2) An associate degree program may require more than sixty (60)  
26 semester hours of credit if prior approval has been granted by the board of  
27 trustees of the state-supported two-year institution of higher education and  
28 the Two-Year Higher Education Coordinating Board.

29 (b) All required coursework shall count toward an associate of arts  
30 degree, associate of science degree, or associate of arts in teaching degree.

31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36