

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

State of Arkansas

85th General Assembly

Regular Session, 2005

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1400

By: Representatives Burris, Mahony, Matayo

By: Senators Faris, J. Jeffress, G. Jeffress, Lavery

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO PROVIDE MORE  
EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE TRANSFER OF CREDITS FOR  
LOWER DIVISION GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES BETWEEN  
INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO PROVIDE  
MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE TRANSFER OF  
CREDITS FOR LOWER DIVISION GENERAL  
EDUCATION COURSES BETWEEN INSTITUTIONS  
OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-218 is amended to read as follows:

6-61-218. Minimum college core - Transferability.

(a) 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 institutions of higher education, the Arkansas Higher  
Education Coordinating Board shall establish in consultation with the  
colleges and universities a minimum core of courses which shall apply toward  
the general education core curriculum requirements for baccalaureate degrees  
at state-supported institutions of higher education and which shall be fully  
transferable between state institutions and the Arkansas Transfer Curriculum  
as provided in subsection (b) of this section.



1       (b)(1) By July 1, 2006, the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating  
2 Board shall develop an Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program so that freshman  
3 and sophomore general education courses that are applicable toward the  
4 requirements for baccalaureate degrees may be more readily transferred for  
5 full credit at other state-supported two-year colleges and four-year  
6 universities in the state.

7       (2) The Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program shall list all  
8 general education core curriculum courses for baccalaureate degrees at state-  
9 supported institutions of higher education that shall be transferable for  
10 full-credit in its subject-matter area of emphasis between state-supported  
11 institutions of higher education as identified in subsection (a) of this  
12 section that are taught:

13       (A) At a state-supported institution that is accredited by  
14 the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; and

15       (B) By faculty having the same credentials as those  
16 required by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association  
17 of Colleges and Schools for college faculty.

18       (c) By July 1, 2006, the Department of Higher Education shall create  
19 and make accessible to parents and students an Internet-based manual that  
20 identifies and describes how freshman and sophomore general education courses  
21 at state-supported institutions of higher education may be transferred to all  
22 other state-supported institutions of higher education in Arkansas.

23       (d) All state-supported institutions of higher education shall accept  
24 for full credit in its subject-matter area of emphasis any course on the  
25 Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program completed by a student if the student  
26 received a grade of "C" or higher in the course.

27       (e)(1)(A) By July 1, 2006, each state-supported institution shall  
28 adopt the requirements of the Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program and  
29 provide the Department of Higher Education and students a chart of courses  
30 for each program that lists the courses on the Arkansas Transfer Curriculum  
31 program that will be accepted for transfer credit in the program.

32       (B) The chart of courses shall be updated by July 1 each  
33 year and include a guide to the institution's transferable courses and  
34 transfer policies.

35       (C) The institution's transfer policy shall include a  
36 provision that requires the institution to provide students with a written

1 explanation detailing each reason for declining to accept any course or  
2 credit hours toward the program.

3 (2) The chart of courses shall include a list of any freshman or  
4 sophomore general education course offered by the state-supported institution  
5 of higher education that is not on the Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program  
6 and those courses shall be designated in the institution's catalogue and  
7 other related publications.

8 (3) Copies of the chart of courses and guide shall be made  
9 available to the transfer officer at each state-supported institution of  
10 higher education and to the Department of Higher Education.

11 (4) The state-supported institutions of higher education shall  
12 file a report each semester with the Department of Higher Education  
13 identifying the number of students who requested transfer credit for  
14 completed courses but were not given credit.

15 (f) Starting on July 1, 2006, a student shall be entitled to a full  
16 refund of tuition and fees charged for any course on the Arkansas Transfer  
17 Curriculum that the student was required to take, if the student completed  
18 the course at another state-supported institution in Arkansas, received a  
19 grade of "C" or better from the institution, requested a transfer, and was  
20 denied full credit in its subject-matter area of emphasis.

21 (g) Private institutions of higher education may participate in the  
22 Arkansas Transfer Curriculum program if the institution complies with all  
23 state law, including rules and regulations, governing the program.