

Changes Impacting Full-Time Enrollment through Senior Year Plus Programs

Legislation was passed during the 2020 legislative session under House File 2629 (Future Ready Iowa Act) which amended provisions of the Senior Year Plus (SYP) program by eliminating references and provisions relating to full-time and part-time postsecondary enrollment.

What does this mean?

In practice, this means that eligible students are now permitted to enroll through the school district in courses offered through concurrent enrollment and/or the postsecondary enrollment options (PSEO) program even if the student exceeds 23 credits at any one eligible postsecondary institution within an academic year. There is no longer a statutory limit on the number of credits in which a student may enroll.

A postsecondary institution still maintains the authority and responsibility to carry out institutional policies regarding limits on enrollment for all students. A postsecondary institution *may not* put in place additional policies or restrictions specifically for concurrently enrolled students; postsecondary institutional policies must apply equally to all students.

A secondary district *may not* place restrictions on the number of credits a student is eligible to enroll and students must earn both secondary and postsecondary credit for successful completion of any enrolled course.

A student who completed district requirements to earn a high school diploma and whose class has graduated is *not* eligible to continue enrollment in the district for the purpose of continuing enrollment in concurrent enrollment courses (Iowa Code 257.6(6)).

Does this impact supplementary weighting funding?

By eliminating the reference to part-time enrollment, school districts may claim supplementary weighted funding for all eligible courses a student is enrolled in through the school foundation funding formula.

Who is responsible for the cost of enrollment?

Provided the student enrolls through the school district, the district remains responsible for the cost of enrollment for **all** courses. SYP provisions require that neither the secondary or postsecondary institution, under any circumstances, pass along the cost of tuition to a student and/or the student's family or to charge a student who fails to successfully complete or pass a concurrent enrollment course. Please note that failure of a student to successfully complete a **PSEO course** is the *only* exception to this provision.

Lastly, this statutory change took effect on July 1, 2020 and is currently in force.

Contact:

For questions or concerns, please contact the Senior Year Plus Consultant at syp@iowa.gov.