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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. *J. Lowery*
DATE: April 22, 2014
SUBJECT: COMAR 13A.02.06 General Financial Aid to Local School Systems (State Aid for Students Enrolled in Early College Program) (AMEND)
PERMISSION TO PUBLISH

PURPOSE:

To seek permission to publish a proposed regulation that will allow full FTE State Aid Payment to Local Education Agencies (LEA) for students registered in a public school system and also enrolled full-time in a state-approved Institution of Higher Education (IHE) when the student is receiving both high school and college credit for college courses completed.

BACKGROUND/HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE:

Under existing COMAR 13A.02.06.03A, the Maryland State Department of Education required an LEA to show that a dually enrolled student was taking at least one course at the public high school in order to receive FTE State Aid for that student. At the September State Board of Education meeting, you approved Emergency Regulations to allow full FTE State Aid payment for the students enrolled full time in a public school “early college program.” Those emergency regulations were effective October 1, 2013 and were extended to August 13, 2014. Those regulations did not define “early college program” or “dual enrollment.”

In the intervening time period, the Department has gathered additional information about other full-time college enrollment programs. We learned that LEAs are establishing agreements with IHEs to allow their students to enroll full-time in an IHE and to receive both high school and college credit for complete courses. This, we believe, is a positive step and furthers the goals of the College and Career Readiness Act.

The regulation proposed here addresses State Aid payment for all registered public school students enrolled full-time in college courses, receiving both high school and college credit.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

COMAR 13A.02.06.03A will establish regulatory authority for MSDE, for State Aid payment purposes, to recognize all registered public school students also enrolled full time in state-approved institutions of higher education and receiving both high school and college credit for college courses completed. This will allow LEAs to claim full FTE State Aid for those students and ensure the

resources are available to develop and sustain expanded dual enrollment opportunities regardless of the nomenclature used to describe the student learning experience. As written, the proposed regulation eliminates any need to define “dual enrollment” or “early college program.”

ACTION:

I seek approval to publish the proposed regulation for COMAR 13A.02.06.03A with the following TENTATIVE timelines:

Maryland Register Issue Date	6/13/14
Hearing	N/A
30-Day Open Comment Period	6/13 - 7/14/2014
Adoption	8/26/14

Attachment

Title 13A STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Subtitle 02 LOCAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Chapter 06 General Financial Aid to Local School Systems

Authority: Education Article, §§2-205 and 5-202, Annotated Code of Maryland

.03 State Financial Assistance under the Foundation Program.

A. For the purpose of calculating State aid under the foundation program, a student, who is a bona fide resident of Maryland and who has age appropriate immunizations, may be included in the enrollment count of the local school system under the following circumstances:

(1)—(6) (text unchanged)

(7) A student may be counted as a 1/4 full-time equivalent student for each course taken carrying one unit of credit or fraction of a unit of credit up to a maximum of one full-time student if the student:

(a)—(c) (text unchanged)

(d) Is present at least 1 day in September and has not been determined to have withdrawn on or before September 30; [and]

(8) A student may be counted as one full-time equivalent student if the student:

(a)—(b) (text unchanged)

(c) Has received at least 1 day of service in September and has not been determined to have withdrawn on or before September 30; and

(9) A student may be counted as one full-time equivalent student if the student:

(a) Is between age 5 and age 21;

(b) [Is dually enrolled in an early college public school program, grades 9-12, located on the campus of an institute of higher education or on the public school campus;] *Is registered in a public school system grades 9-12, and also enrolled full-time in a state-approved institution of higher education and receives both high school and college credit for college courses completed; and*

(c) [Is attending the early college public school program full-time:] *Is under the supervision of the public school system for the purposes of:*

(1) assuring that all graduation requirements are met;

(2) planning the dual enrollment course work of the student; and

(3) if appropriate, providing and supervising participation in extracurricular activities at the public school.

(d) Is taking four or more credit-bearing courses in the early college public school program; and

(e) Is under the supervision of the public school for the purposes of:

(i) Assuring that all graduation requirements are met;

(ii) Planning the dual enrollment course work of the student; and

(iii) Providing and supervising participation in extracurricular activities at the public school, if appropriate.

B.—D. (text unchanged)

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State Superintendent of Schools