

# SENATE BILL 376

F1, F2

6lr0139  
CF 6lr0161

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By: **The President (By Request – Administration) and Senators Bates, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Hershey, Jennings, Mathias, Muse, Norman, Ready, Reilly, Rosapepe, Salling, Serafini, Simonaire, and Waugh**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs and Budget and Taxation

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH)**  
3 **Schools Act of 2016**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain number of State-funded Pathways in Technology  
5 Early College High (P-TECH) schools in the State; requiring the State to provide a  
6 certain grant to P-TECH schools beginning in a certain fiscal year for certain costs;  
7 providing that the grant may not exceed a certain amount in certain fiscal years;  
8 requiring a county board to pay for dual enrollment costs for certain P-TECH  
9 students; prohibiting a county board from charging certain P-TECH students for  
10 certain costs; prohibiting a community college from charging certain P-TECH  
11 students dual enrollment costs; requiring the State Department of Education to  
12 reimburse the county board for a certain amount of dual enrollment costs; requiring  
13 the Department to adopt certain regulations; authorizing a county board to enter  
14 into or amend certain agreements with a community college; defining certain terms;  
15 requiring a certain report by a certain date; subjecting certain schools to a certain  
16 certification process under certain circumstances; providing for the construction of  
17 this Act; and generally relating to P-TECH schools.

18 BY adding to

19 Article – Education  
20 Section 8-801 and 18-14A-07  
21 Annotated Code of Maryland  
22 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

23 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

24 Article – Education  
25 Section 18-14A-04  
26 Annotated Code of Maryland  
27 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



## Preamble

WHEREAS, The Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) School model allows students to graduate from public high school with a high school diploma and an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, Students in a P-TECH school may earn pre-apprenticeship certificates and other career certificates in addition to an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, A P-TECH school does not require academic entrance criteria, which affords all students an opportunity to receive an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, The P-TECH model is a close collaboration between the local school district, a community college, and one or more industry employers to create career-ready students who graduate from high school with an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, The P-TECH model has been successfully established in other states, including New York, Connecticut, and Illinois, and is showing promise; and

WHEREAS, Graduating more high school students with career-ready skills through a P-TECH school is consistent with the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013; now, therefore,

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Education****8-801.**

**(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.**

**(2) “P-TECH CURRICULUM” MEANS A COURSE OF STUDY LEADING TO AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE OR A COMMISSION-APPROVED CERTIFICATE.**

**(3) “P-TECH SCHOOL” MEANS A PATHWAYS IN TECHNOLOGY EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL THAT:**

**(I) IS A PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL SELECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT; AND**

**(II) HAS RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL FROM THE COMMISSION.**

1           **(4) “P-TECH SCHOOL COSTS” MEANS THE FOLLOWING COSTS OF**  
2 **OPERATING A P-TECH SCHOOL AND OFFERING AND ADMINISTERING A P-TECH**  
3 **CURRICULUM:**

4           **(I) ADDITIONAL STAFF FOR THE P-TECH SCHOOL TO**  
5 **IMPLEMENT THE P-TECH CURRICULUM;**

6           **(II) INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES SUCH AS**  
7 **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF FOR THE P-TECH CURRICULUM,**  
8 **P-TECH CURRICULUM MATERIALS, ADDITIONAL TEACHER PLANNING, AND**  
9 **ADDITIONAL COORDINATION;**

10           **(III) EXTENDED DAY PROGRAMS; AND**

11           **(IV) STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES SUCH AS COUNSELING,**  
12 **TUTORING, STUDENT CAREER EXPLORATION, AND STUDENT EVENTS RELATING TO**  
13 **P-TECH CURRICULUM AND DUAL ENROLLMENT.**

14           **(5) “P-TECH STUDENT” MEANS A FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT STUDENT**  
15 **ENROLLED IN A P-TECH SCHOOL.**

16           **(B) (1) THERE ARE FOUR STATE-FUNDED P-TECH SCHOOLS IN THE**  
17 **STATE.**

18           **(2) A P-TECH SCHOOL MAY BE ESTABLISHED AS A SEPARATE UNIT**  
19 **WITHIN A SCHOOL AS A SCHOOL WITHIN A SCHOOL.**

20           **(C) (1) BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND IN EACH FISCAL YEAR**  
21 **THEREAFTER, THE STATE SHALL DISTRIBUTE P-TECH SCHOOL GRANTS TO**  
22 **COUNTY BOARDS FOR A P-TECH SCHOOL WITHIN A COUNTY.**

23           **(2) THE P-TECH SCHOOL GRANTS SHALL BE USED FOR P-TECH**  
24 **SCHOOL COSTS.**

25           **(D) (1) (I) IN FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND IN EACH FISCAL YEAR**  
26 **THEREAFTER AND IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER AMOUNT PROVIDED BY LAW, THE**  
27 **AMOUNT PROVIDED FOR EACH P-TECH STUDENT IS \$520.**

28           **(II) THE STATE CONTRIBUTION IS 50% FOR EACH P-TECH**  
29 **STUDENT.**

1           **(2) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED UNDER THIS**  
2 **SECTION MAY NOT EXCEED AN AMOUNT ADEQUATE TO FUND FOUR P-TECH**  
3 **SCHOOLS FOR THE FOLLOWING MAXIMUM NUMBER OF P-TECH STUDENTS:**

4                   **(I) 400 IN FISCAL YEAR 2017;**

5                   **(II) 800 IN FISCAL YEAR 2018;**

6                   **(III) 1,200 IN FISCAL YEAR 2019;**

7                   **(IV) 1,600 IN FISCAL YEAR 2020;**

8                   **(V) 2,000 IN FISCAL YEAR 2021;**

9                   **(VI) 2,400 IN FISCAL YEAR 2022; AND**

10                   **(VII) 2,400 IN EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER.**

11           **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT**  
12 **THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.**

13           **(2) THE REGULATIONS SHALL INCLUDE VERIFICATION BY THE**  
14 **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF:**

15                   **(I) P-TECH STUDENT ENROLLMENT;**

16                   **(II) P-TECH SCHOOL COSTS;**

17                   **(III) THE PERFORMANCE OF THE P-TECH STUDENTS ON**  
18 **FEDERAL AND STATE ASSESSMENTS;**

19                   **(IV) THE NUMBER OF P-TECH STUDENTS DUALY ENROLLED**  
20 **IN THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE; AND**

21                   **(V) THE NUMBER OF P-TECH STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM**  
22 **THE SCHOOL, RECEIVING AN ASSOCIATE DEGREE, AND THE YEAR IN WHICH THEY**  
23 **GRADUATED AND RECEIVED THE DEGREE.**

24 18-14A-04.

25           **(A) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO DUALY ENROLLED P-TECH**  
26 **STUDENTS AS DEFINED IN § 18-14A-07 OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

1           **[(a)] (B)**     A public institution of higher education may not charge tuition to a  
2 dually enrolled student.

3           **[(b)] (C)**     (1)     Subject to subsection **[(d)] (E)** of this section, for each dually  
4 enrolled student who is enrolled in a public school in the county, the county board shall pay  
5 for up to a maximum of four courses in which the student is enrolled while a student in a  
6 public secondary school in the State:

7                           (i)     For a public senior institution of higher education, 75% of the  
8 cost of tuition; and

9                           (ii)    For a community college, the lesser of:

10                                   1.     5% of the target per pupil foundation amount established  
11 under § 5–202(a) of this article; or

12                                   2.     75% of the cost of tuition.

13                           (2)    For each course in excess of four in which a dually enrolled student is  
14 enrolled, the county board shall pay:

15                           (i)     For a public senior institution of higher education, 90% of the  
16 cost of tuition; and

17                           (ii)    For a community college, the lesser of:

18                                   1.     5% of the target per pupil foundation amount established  
19 under § 5–202(a) of this article; or

20                                   2.     90% of the cost of tuition.

21                           (3)    If there is an agreement before July 1, 2013, between a public school  
22 and a public institution of higher education in which the public institution of higher  
23 education charges less than 75% of the cost of tuition to a dually enrolled student, the  
24 county board shall pay the cost of tuition under the existing agreement.

25           **[(c)] (D)**     (1)     (i)     A county board may charge a dually enrolled student a fee  
26 not to exceed 90% of the amount paid under subsection **[(b)(1)] (C)(1)** of this section.

27                           (ii)    A county board may charge a dually enrolled student a fee not to  
28 exceed 100% of the amount paid under subsection **[(b)(2)] (C)(2)** of this section.

29                           (2)    A county board shall consider the financial ability of students when  
30 setting fees.

31                           (3)    A county board shall waive the fee for students who are eligible for free  
32 and reduced price meals.

1            **[(d)] (E)**      If there is an agreement between a public school and a public institution  
2 of higher education in which a public school agrees to pay for more than four courses at a  
3 public institution of higher education for a dually enrolled student, the public school shall  
4 pay for the number of courses under the agreement.

5 **18-14A-07.**

6            **(A) (1)**      **IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**  
7 **INDICATED.**

8                    **(2)**      **“DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS” MEANS THE FOLLOWING COSTS AND**  
9 **FEES ASSOCIATED WITH A DUALY ENROLLED P-TECH STUDENT:**

10                    **(I)**      **TUITION;**

11                    **(II)**     **TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR THE**  
12 **COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSES;**

13                    **(III)**     **COMMUNITY COLLEGE REGISTRATION FEES;**

14                    **(IV)**     **TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE COMMUNITY**  
15 **COLLEGE; AND**

16                    **(V)**     **ANY OTHER NECESSARY FEES RELATED TO THE**  
17 **ENROLLMENT OF THE P-TECH STUDENT REQUIRED BY THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**

18                    **(3)**      **“DUALY ENROLLED P-TECH STUDENT” MEANS A P-TECH**  
19 **STUDENT WHO IS DUALY ENROLLED IN:**

20                    **(I)**      **A P-TECH SCHOOL IN THE STATE; AND**

21                    **(II)**     **A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE.**

22                    **(4)**      **“P-TECH SCHOOL” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-801 OF**  
23 **THIS ARTICLE.**

24                    **(5)**      **“P-TECH STUDENT” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 8-801 OF**  
25 **THIS ARTICLE.**

26                    **(B)**      **A COMMUNITY COLLEGE MAY NOT CHARGE DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS**  
27 **TO A P-TECH STUDENT.**

1           **(C) THE COUNTY BOARD SHALL PAY FOR THE DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS**  
2 **FOR EACH DUALY ENROLLED P-TECH STUDENT.**

3           **(D) A COUNTY BOARD MAY NOT CHARGE A DUALY ENROLLED P-TECH**  
4 **STUDENT ANY DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS.**

5           **(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REIMBURSE A COUNTY BOARD FOR 50%**  
6 **OF THE DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS FOR EACH P-TECH STUDENT.**

7           **(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT PROVIDE**  
8 **FOR A SYSTEM OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS.**

9           **(F) A COUNTY BOARD MAY ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A COMMUNITY**  
10 **COLLEGE OR AMEND AN EXISTING AGREEMENT WITH A COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOR**  
11 **THE PAYMENT OF DUAL ENROLLMENT COSTS FOR P-TECH STUDENTS AS**  
12 **PROVIDED FOR IN THIS SECTION.**

13           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

14           (a) On or before December 1 of each year, the State Department of Education, in  
15 consultation with the Maryland Higher Education Commission, shall report to the  
16 Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General  
17 Assembly regarding the implementation of P-TECH schools in Maryland, including:

18                   (1) the number of students enrolled in each P-TECH school;

19                   (2) the business partnership associated with each P-TECH school;

20                   (3) the curriculum created for each P-TECH school;

21                   (4) the performance of the P-TECH students on federal and State  
22 assessments;

23                   (5) the number of P-TECH students dually enrolled in the community  
24 college; and

25                   (6) the number of P-TECH students graduating from the school, receiving  
26 an associate degree, and the year in which they graduated and received the degree.

27           (b) Beginning with the report due on December 1, 2018, the report in subsection  
28 (a) of this section shall include information on other school districts interested in P-TECH  
29 schools and whether funding should be expanded to include additional P-TECH schools.

30           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

1 (a) This Act may not be construed as prohibiting a county board from establishing  
2 a P-TECH school without:

3 (1) the per pupil funding as provided in § 8-801 of the Education Article;  
4 or

5 (2) the dual enrollment funding as provided in § 18-14A-07 of the  
6 Education Article.

7 (b) A P-TECH school established by a county board not funded under § 8-801 or  
8 § 18-14A-07 of the Education Article is subject to the certificate of approval process of the  
9 Maryland Higher Education Commission in Title 11, Subtitle 2 of the Education Article.

10 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June  
11 1, 2016.