

## Chapter 548

## (House Bill 1019)

AN ACT concerning

**State Board of Education – Public High School Students – Assessments and Graduation Requirements**

FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the State Board of Education to use a certain assessment for a certain purpose only under certain circumstances; requiring all public high school students to be assessed in a certain manner, subject to a certain limitation; requiring the State Board of Education to administer a certain assessment to certain students in certain school years; providing that the State Board of Education may use a certain assessment for certain purposes only under certain circumstances; prohibiting the State Board from using the results of certain assessments for certain purposes; during a certain period of time; authorizing the State Board to use a certain assessment to determine a certain amount of a student's final grade in a certain course during a certain period of time under certain circumstances; making conforming changes; providing for the termination of this Act;~~ and generally relating to the administration of assessments and graduation requirements for public high school students.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
 Article – Education  
 Section 7–205.1  
 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

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

**Article – Education**

7–205.1.

(a) The State Board shall establish high school curriculum and graduation requirements for all public schools in accordance with this section.

(b) (1) ~~Beginning~~ ~~SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION,~~ ~~BEGINNING~~ with the 2015–2016 school year, all students shall be assessed using acceptable college placement cut scores no later than 11th grade to determine whether the student is ready for college–level credit–bearing course work in English Language Arts, Literacy, and Mathematics.

(2) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, the Department, in collaboration with local school systems and public community colleges, shall develop and implement, by the 2016–2017 school year, transition courses or other instructional opportunities to be delivered in the 12th grade to students who have not achieved college and career readiness by the end of the 11th grade.

(ii) The implementation of transition courses or other instructional opportunities required under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph:

1. Shall include an assessment or reassessment of the student after completion of the course; and

2. May not preclude or replace enrollment in a course otherwise required for graduation from high school.

(c) (1) Beginning with the 9th grade class of 2014, and subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection and subsection (e) of this section, each student shall enroll in a mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends high school.

(2) The Department shall adopt regulations that establish the mathematics and math–related courses that fulfill the requirements of this subsection, which may include math–related career and technology program courses.

(d) It is the goal of the State that all students achieve mathematics competency in Algebra II.

(e) A student who is enrolled in a credit–bearing mathematics transition course under subsection (b)(2) of this section:

(1) Subject to item (2) of this subsection, shall be considered to meet the requirements of subsection (c) of this section; and

(2) May not be considered to meet the requirements of subsection (c) of this section if other credit–bearing courses required for graduation have not been met.

**(F) THE STATE BOARD MAY ONLY REQUIRE A PASSING SCORE ON A STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT TO EVALUATE A STUDENT FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL AFTER THE ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN FIELD–TESTED AND PILOTED FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR.**

~~(1) IN THE 2019–2020 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD:~~

~~(i) SHALL ADMINISTER AN ASSESSMENT INTENDED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION ONLY TO A REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLE OF PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE STATE; AND~~

~~IF THE STATE BOARD REQUIRES A PASSING SCORE ON A STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT TO EVALUATE A STUDENT FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL, ONLY AFTER THE ASSESSMENT HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED STATEWIDE FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR, THE STATE BOARD MAY:~~

~~(1) REQUIRE A PASSING SCORE ON A STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENT TO EVALUATE A STUDENT FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL; AND~~

~~(2) USE THE ASSESSMENT TO DETERMINE UP TO 20% OF A STUDENT'S FINAL GRADE IN A COURSE IN THE SUBJECT OF THE ASSESSMENT.~~

~~(H) MAY NOT USE THE ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO EVALUATE A STUDENT IN ANY WAY FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.~~

~~(2) IN THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR, THE STATE BOARD:~~

~~(I) SHALL ADMINISTER THE ASSESSMENT DESCRIBED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ALL PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN THE STATE; AND~~

~~(H) MAY NOT USE THE ASSESSMENT ADMINISTERED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH TO EVALUATE A STUDENT IN ANY WAY FOR GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL.~~

[(f)] (G) The Department may adopt regulations to require the award of credit toward high school graduation requirements for the time a student spends participating in:

(1) A registered apprenticeship program approved by the Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning within the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation; or

(2) A youth apprenticeship program under Title 18, Subtitle 18 of this article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019. ~~It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of June 30, 2021, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.~~

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.