

# SENATE BILL 395

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4r1561  
CF HB 569

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By: **Senators Augustine and Rosapepe**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 27, 2024

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Higher Education – Credit Eligibility and Transfer of Credits – English as a**  
3 **Second Language Courses**  
4 **(Credit for All Language Learning (CALL) Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of requiring a public community college to consider certain language  
6 courses as eligible for certain credits toward an associate’s degree under certain  
7 circumstances; requiring that certain credits for certain language or humanities  
8 courses earned by students who transfer from certain community colleges to certain  
9 institutions of higher education be transferable; ~~prohibiting~~ requiring certain  
10 institutions of higher education ~~from denying to review and consider~~ the transfer of  
11 certain credits for certain language or humanities courses ~~for any reason~~; and  
12 generally relating to the transfer of credits from community colleges to institutions  
13 of higher education.

14 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
15 Article – Education  
16 Section 10–101(c) and (h)  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
20 Article – Education  
21 Section 11–207(c) and 15–117(b)  
22 Annotated Code of Maryland  
23 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 BY adding to  
 2 Article – Education  
 3 Section 11–207.1  
 4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
 5 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

8 **Article – Education**

9 10–101.

10 (c) “Commission” means the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

11 (h) (1) “Institution of higher education” means an institution of postsecondary  
 12 education that generally limits enrollment to graduates of secondary schools, and awards  
 13 degrees at either the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level.

14 (2) “Institution of higher education” includes public, private nonprofit, and  
 15 for-profit institutions of higher education.

16 11–207.

17 (c) (1) The Commission, in collaboration with the public institutions of higher  
 18 education, shall develop and implement a statewide transfer agreement whereby at least  
 19 60 credits of general education, elective, and major courses that a student earns at any  
 20 community college in the State toward an associate of arts or associate of science degree  
 21 shall be transferable to any public senior higher education institution in the State for credit  
 22 toward a bachelor’s degree by July 1, 2016.

23 (2) (I) **THE AGREEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS**  
 24 **SUBSECTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A**  
 25 **COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15–117(B)(3) OF THIS**  
 26 **ARTICLE BE TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION**  
 27 **IN THE STATE.**

28 (II) ~~AN A PUBLIC~~ **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE**  
 29 **STATE MAY NOT DENY THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE WITH**  
 30 **SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH FOR ANY REASON.**

31 11–207.1.

32 (A) ANY CREDITS EARNED FOR A COURSE AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN  
 33 THE STATE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 15–117(B)(3) OF THIS ARTICLE MAY BE

1 TRANSFERABLE TO ANY PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
2 IN THE STATE.

3 **(B) A PRIVATE NONPROFIT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE**  
4 **STATE SHALL REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE TRANSFER OF CREDITS IN ACCORDANCE**  
5 **WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.**

6 15–117.

7 (b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, beginning with  
8 fall 2015, the standard number of credits required for an associate’s degree from a public  
9 community college is 60 credit hours.

10 (2) The standard number of credits required under paragraph (1) of this  
11 subsection does not apply if:

12 (i) The degree program is defined as more than a 2–year associate’s  
13 degree;

14 (ii) Professional accreditation requires a higher number of credit  
15 hours or requires course work that cannot be completed in 60 credits; or

16 (iii) Certification requirements result in a need for credit hours in  
17 excess of 60.

18 **(3) A PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE SHALL CONSIDER A COURSE OR**  
19 **PROGRAM FOR ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE OR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER**  
20 **AS ELIGIBLE FOR EITHER WORLD LANGUAGE OR HUMANITIES ~~ELECTIVES~~ CREDIT,**  
21 **OR BOTH, TOWARD A STUDENT’S ASSOCIATE’S DEGREE IF THE COURSE IS NOT**  
22 **CLASSIFIED BY THE PUBLIC COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS A REMEDIAL COURSE.**

23 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
24 1, 2024.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.