

**Maryland General Assembly
Department of Legislative Services**

**Proposed Regulations
State Board of Education**
(DLS Control No. 21-010)

Overview and Legal and Fiscal Impact

These regulations amend the requirements related to programs in technology education provided by local school systems for prekindergarten through grade 12 to include programs in computer science or engineering.

The regulations present no legal issues of concern.

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Regulations of COMAR Affected

State Board of Education:

Specific Subjects: Programs in Technology Education: COMAR 13A.04.01.01 and 02

Legal Analysis

Summary of Regulations

The regulations amend the requirements related to programs in technology education provided by local school systems for prekindergarten through grade 12 to include programs in computer science or engineering. Specifically, the regulations alter the requirement that each local school system offer a technology education program and provide technology education curriculum documents by requiring each school system to offer a computer science, engineering, or technology education program and provide computer science, engineering, or technology education curriculum documents. The regulations also alter the requirement that the program enable a student to select certain courses by replacing advanced technology electives with computer science, engineering, or technology electives or career and technical education programs of study. The regulations repeal requirements that the program meet specific standards related to the nature of technology, the impacts of technology, engineering design and development, core technologies, the designed world, and Maryland advanced technology education electives and replace them with a requirement that the program meet K–12 Computer Science Standards or Standards for Technological and Engineering Literacy, or both. Finally, the regulations make technical and conforming changes.

Legal Issues

The regulations present no legal issues of concern.

Statutory Authority and Legislative Intent

The department cites § 2–205 (c) and (h) of the Education Article as statutory authority for the regulations. Section 2–205(c) of the Education Article requires the State board to adopt bylaws, rules, and regulations for the administration of the public schools. Section 2–205(h) requires the State Board of Education, with the advice of the State Superintendent of Schools, to establish basic policy and guidelines for the program of instruction in public schools.

This authority is correct and complete. The regulations comply with the legislative intent of the law.

Technical Corrections and Special Notes

In response to a question from the Department of Legislative Services, staff for the department agreed to make clarifying changes to Regulation .01B(2) and to the Notice of Proposed Action.

Fiscal Analysis

There is no fiscal impact on State or local agencies.

Agency Estimate of Projected Fiscal Impact

The department advises that the regulations have no fiscal impact; however, local school systems may need to revise curricular resources to align with the regulations. The regulations amend the requirements related to programs in technology education provided by local school systems for grades 9 through 12 to include programs in computer science or engineering. The requirement for specified advanced technology electives for high school students is replaced with computer science, engineering, or technology electives or career and technical education programs of study.

Under the current regulations, each local superintendent must certify to the State Superintendent that its instruction program is in compliance with the regulations every five years beginning September 1, 2007; the next certification deadline is September 2022. Local school systems regularly revise their curricula to align with the new standards and requirements of the regulations. Thus, the Department of Legislative Services advises that any fiscal impact can be handled with existing resources.

Impact on Budget

There is no impact on the State operating or capital budget.

Agency Estimate of Projected Small Business Impact

The department advises that the regulations have minimal or no economic impact on small businesses in the State. The Department of Legislative Services concurs.

Contact Information

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