

**SB196 ENROLLED**



1 SB196  
2 JPZ83NY-2  
3 By Senator Orr  
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education  
5 First Read: 25-Feb-25



1      Enrolled, An Act,

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4                Relating to public high school education; to create the  
5      Move on When Ready Act; to establish a program allowing  
6      eligible 11th and 12th grade students to take all courses at  
7      an eligible public institution of higher education and receive  
8      high school credit for the coursework; to create the Move on  
9      When Ready Fund and authorize the Chancellor of the Alabama  
10     Community College System (ACCS) to administer the fund; to  
11    authorize payment from the fund to a public institution of  
12    higher education for courses taken pursuant to the program; to  
13    provide for the calculation of the payment; to prohibit a  
14    public institution of higher education from charging a student  
15    for postsecondary coursework taken pursuant to the program; to  
16    authorize the State Board of Education, in consultation with  
17    the ACCS Board of Trustees and the Alabama Commission on  
18    Higher Education's Council of Presidents, to adopt rules; and  
19    to create criminal penalties for any person who enables a  
20    public institution of higher education to wrongfully obtain  
21    payments under this program.

22    BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23                Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited  
24    as the Move on When Ready Act.

25                (b) As used in this section, the following words have  
26    the following meanings:

27                    (1) ACCS. The Alabama Community College System.

28                    (2) DEPARTMENT. The State Department of Education.



29 (3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION or INSTITUTION. Each of the  
30 following:

31                   a. Any two-year public institution of higher education  
32        in the state, including postsecondary technical colleges,  
33        trade schools, community colleges, and junior colleges.

34                   b. Any four-year public institution of higher  
35 education, provided that institution chooses to participate in  
36 the program.

37 (4) ELIGIBLE STUDENT. A student entering 11th or 12th  
38 grade who spent the prior school year in attendance at a  
39 public high school in this state who meets the eligibility  
40 criteria adopted pursuant to this section.

41 (5) FUND. The Move on When Ready Fund created by this  
42 section.

43 (6) PROGRAM. The arrangement authorized by this section  
44 whereby an eligible student takes all of his or her courses,  
45 as approved by subsection (f), at an eligible institution and  
46 receives secondary credit from his or her high school with the  
47 goal of completing graduation and high school diploma  
48 requirements.

49 (7) SECONDARY CREDIT. High school credit for courses  
50 taken at an eligible institution under the program.

51 (8) STATE BOARD. The State Board of Education.

52 (c) (1) Any eligible student may apply to an eligible  
53 institution to take courses at that institution which are  
54 approved for secondary academic credit pursuant to subsection  
55 (f). If accepted at an eligible institution, an eligible  
56 student may take any approved course at that institution,



57 whether or not the course is taught during the regular public  
58 school day, and receive secondary credit. While taking courses  
59 at an eligible institution, a student shall be considered a  
60 student of that institution and may not take any courses at  
61 his or her high school or participate in any school  
62 activities, including extra-curricular activities. An eligible  
63 institution that accepts an eligible student under the program  
64 may not receive any state funds for that student unless the  
65 institution complies with the requirements of this section.

66 (2) An eligible student who enrolls in the program  
67 shall not be counted as a high school dropout on the state  
68 report card if they fail to complete the requirements for a  
69 high school diploma.

70 (3) Nothing in this section shall affect or otherwise  
71 replace any existing law or funding from the Legislature  
72 relating to dual enrollment practices as of October 1, 2024.

73 (d) Except as otherwise provided, the state board shall  
74 consult with the Board of Trustees of ACCS and the Alabama  
75 Commission on Higher Education's Council of Presidents in  
76 developing and adopting rules regarding the program,  
77 including, but not limited to:

78 (1) Eligibility criteria for program participation,  
79 including applicable state and federal testing requirements  
80 for eligible students participating in the program; and

81 (2) The development of appropriate forms and counseling  
82 guidelines for the program.

83 (e) (1) No later than April 1 of each year, each local  
84 board of education shall provide general information about the



85 program, including the appropriate forms, to all middle  
86 school, 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students in the district.  
87 The state board shall make the appropriate forms and  
88 guidelines available to all local boards of education and  
89 eligible institutions.

90 (2) Each local board of education shall also provide  
91 counseling services in accordance with the counseling  
92 guidelines to its students and their parents or guardians  
93 before a student may enroll in the program. Prior to  
94 participating in the program, a student and his or her parent  
95 or guardian shall sign the form provided by the local board of  
96 education, or by an eligible institution, stating that they  
97 have received the counseling specified in this subsection and  
98 that they understand the responsibilities that shall be  
99 assumed in participating in the program.

100 (f) (1)a. Each local board of education shall grant  
101 academic credit to an eligible student enrolled in a course at  
102 an eligible institution if that course has been approved  
103 pursuant to paragraph b. and if the student successfully  
104 completes that course.

105 b. The state board and representatives of each  
106 participating eligible institution shall collaborate to  
107 approve courses for inclusion in the program. Any course that  
108 is substantially comparable to a high school course approved  
109 by the state board, other than a remedial or summer school  
110 course, shall be approved. Co-requisite courses may be  
111 approved for inclusion in the program, provided that a student  
112 may only receive one secondary credit for the completion of



113 both the co-requisite course and the companion college-level  
114 course.

115 c. The secondary credit granted shall be for the  
116 comparable high school course.

117 (2) Secondary school credits granted for eligible  
118 institution courses shall be counted toward graduation  
119 requirements and subject area requirements of the local board  
120 of education. Evidence of successful completion of each course  
121 and secondary credits granted shall be included in the  
122 eligible student's high school transcript. Secondary credit  
123 for postsecondary courses shall be awarded in the same manner  
124 as credits for dual enrollment courses.

125 (3) Students who successfully complete a course that is  
126 not approved under subdivision (1) may receive secondary  
127 credit for purposes of satisfying an elective credit.

128 (4) The state board shall establish rules to require  
129 local boards of education to award a high school diploma to  
130 any eligible student who is enrolled at an eligible  
131 institution under the program, provided that the credit earned  
132 at the institution satisfies course requirements needed for  
133 the eligible student to complete high school graduation.

134 (g) (1) The Move on When Ready Fund is created within  
135 the State Treasury. The Executive Director of the Alabama  
136 Commission on Higher Education shall administer the fund. The  
137 executive director shall use the fund to pay eligible  
138 institutions the lesser of the following amounts for each  
139 participating eligible student enrolled therein, less a  
140 records fee of two hundred dollars (\$200) for the



141 administration costs of the local board of education:

142       a. The actual cost of tuition, materials, and fees  
143 directly related to the courses taken by the eligible student  
144 at the institution; or

145       b. The amount that the participating eligible student  
146 would have earned if he or she had been in equivalent  
147 instructional programs through the local board of education,  
148 calculated pursuant to subdivision (2).

149       (2) The total allotment of funds to the local board of  
150 education in which a participating student is enrolled at an  
151 eligible institution shall be calculated as otherwise provided  
152 in Title 16, Code of Alabama 1975, provided that during the  
153 student's second year in the program, the calculation shall  
154 include an ensuing reduction equivalent to the amount paid  
155 from the fund to the eligible institution pursuant to this  
156 subsection.

157       (3) The records fee contained in subdivision (1) may be  
158 increased at the sole discretion of the state board by up to  
159 four percent annually.

160       (4) Any monies appropriated shall be budgeted and  
161 allotted pursuant to the Budget Management Act in accordance  
162 with Article 4, commencing with Section 41-4-80 of Chapter 4  
163 of Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and only in the amounts  
164 provided by the Legislature in the general appropriations act  
165 or other appropriations act.

166       (h) A student enrolled in an eligible institution for  
167 secondary credit shall not be eligible for any other state  
168 student financial aid for courses taken under the program.



169 (i) An eligible institution may not charge an eligible  
170 student for coursework taken pursuant to this program and  
171 shall accept the payment made pursuant to subsection (g) as  
172 full payment for the eligible student.

173 (j) Any person who knowingly makes or furnishes any  
174 false statement or misrepresentation, or who accepts a  
175 statement or misrepresentation knowing it to be false, for the  
176 purpose of enabling an eligible institution to obtain  
177 wrongfully any payment under this section shall be guilty of a  
178 misdemeanor.

179 (k) No later than July 1 of each year, the department,  
180 in consultation with the Alabama Community College System and  
181 the Alabama Commission on Higher Education's Council of  
182 Presidents, shall prepare and publish a report about the  
183 impact of the program during the previous academic year. The  
184 report shall include, but not be limited to, information about  
185 the number of students in each school district who participate  
186 in the program and the number of students who successfully  
187 complete the program, graduate from high school, and earn a  
188 postsecondary credential.



## SB196 Enrolled

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198 President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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## Speaker of the House of Representatives

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SB196

Senate 09-Apr-25

208 I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed  
209 the Senate, as amended.

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Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

218 Amended and passed: 06-May-25

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Senate concurred in House amendment 06-May-25

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By: Senator Orr