LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICE
Fiscal Note

Date: May 21, 2025	8:37 AM	**Author:** CARTER, GARY
Dept./Agy.: Education/LCTCS		
Subject: Permits public schools to partner with LCTCS for courses		**Analyst:** Julie Silva

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Requires all pubic high school students to have access to vocational and technical courses. (8/1/25)

Proposed legislation requires all public high schools, including charter schools, to provide students the opportunity to enroll in available vocational and technical education courses. Provides that if a school does not offer vocational and technical courses the school may enter into agreements to partner with other public schools or with one or more public postsecondary two-year institutions of higher education in the state, or with nonprofit proprietary schools approved by BESE to provide courses. Additionally requires all public high schools to advise students of the availability of the TOPS Technical Early Start Award for eligible students and to provide information on the eligibility criteria of the award. Provides that nothing in proposed legislation is to supersede the Course Choice Program. Provides that if a high school's approved mission or circular model does not align with providing vocational and technical education courses, the school may request a waiver from both its local governing authority and BESE.

EXPENDITURES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Agy. Self-Gen.	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Ded./Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Federal Funds	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Local Funds	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Annual Total						

REVENUES	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	5 -YEAR TOTAL
State Gen. Fd.	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Agy. Self-Gen.	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	SEE BELOW	
Ded./Other	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Federal Funds	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Local Funds	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Annual Total						

EXPENDITURE EXPLANATION

To the extent a public school does not offer access to career and technical education (CTE) courses, an increase in expenditures to partner with other approved institutions may result; however, LDOE provides that nearly all public school systems already meet the requirements of proposed legislation, either via direct offering of CTE courses or through existing partnerships. Of the estimated 16 schools and systems not currently offering CTE courses, LDOE provides they are primarily residential schools and correctional facilities. Proposed legislation may require these schools to implement or partner with existing CTE programs; however, due to the low number of such schools, the LFO does not assume any increase in expenditures as a result of proposed legislation will be significant.

The LFO is unable to assess whether proposed legislation will result in an increase in students participating in dual enrollment programs, but based on information provided by LDOE, it does not expect that if an increase were to be realized, it would be significant; however, the following is provided for informational purposes. In Louisiana, the costs of dual enrollment can be covered by the state, by the school system, by the student, or their parent/guardian, or through any combination of these. Typically, school systems execute Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with community colleges to cover the costs of dual enrollment. Some school systems allocate funds specifically for dual enrollment, while others may require students or families to cover costs beyond a certain limit. For informational purposes, the Louisiana Community and Technical Colleges System (LCTCS) provided that CTE courses cost, on average, $338 per credit hour of instruction. Of this amount, $170 is paid through tuition and fees. This cost is borne either by school systems or by a student, depending on the agreement a system has with LCTCS. This may also be funded through various state and federal sources (detailed in the revenue section below). The remaining $168 constitutes a per credit hour increase in expenditures for LCTCS.

REVENUE EXPLANATION

Public schools, including charters, are eligible for additional funding through the MFP via the application of a 6% CTE weight and through the Supplemental Course Allocation which grants schools an allocation of $59 per student in grades 7-12 to be spent on approved providers of academic courses, including dual enrollment. Additionally, the MFP provides for Career Development Funds via Level 4. Proposed legislation prohibits the assessment of an additional CTE course fee for students enrolled in school systems receiving these funds.

The TOPS Tech Early Start award provides up to $600 per academic year for any eligible 11th or 12th grade student attending a Louisiana public high school who wishes to concurrently enroll in up to six credit hours per semester at a public or nonpublic college or an approved training provider. The Carl D. Perkins Grant is a federal award from the US Department of Education to the LCTCS which then allocates funding to various schools within the system based on the number of CTE programs and number of students enrolled in CTE programs.

LCTCS provides that tuition and mandatory fees charged to LCTCS students generate $170 in revenue (SGR) per credit hour. In addition, the newly adopted FY 26 higher education funding formula awards dual enrollment students a small portion of points, which LCTCS calculates will result in an increase of $0.30 in SGF per credit hour of instruction provided to such students.

Senate	Dual Referral Rules	House	
☐ 13.5.1 >= $100,000 Annual Fiscal Cost {S & H}		☐ 6.8(F)(1) >= $100,000 SGF Fiscal Cost {H & S}	
☐ 13.5.2 >= $500,000 Annual Tax or Fee Change {S & H}		☐ 6.8(G) >= $500,000 Tax or Fee Increase or a Net Fee Decrease {S}	

Patrice Thomas
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