

**SB196 ENGROSSED**



1 SB196  
2 EYLYCC9-2  
3 By Senator Orr  
4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education  
5 First Read: 25-Feb-25



## SB196 Engrossed

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A BILL  
TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) This act shall be known and may be cited



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29 as the Move on When Ready Act.

30 (b) As used in this section, the following words have  
31 the following meanings:

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

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

34 (3) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION or INSTITUTION. Each of the  
35 following:

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

39 b. Any four-year public institution of higher  
40 education, provided that institution chooses to participate in  
41 the program.

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

46 (5) FUND. The Move on When Ready Fund created by this  
47 section.

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

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

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



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57 (c) (1) Any eligible student may apply to an eligible  
58 institution to take courses at that institution which are  
59 approved for secondary academic credit pursuant to subsection  
60 (f). If accepted at an eligible institution, an eligible  
61 student may take any approved course at that institution,  
62 whether or not the course is taught during the regular public  
63 school day, and receive secondary credit. While taking courses  
64 at an eligible institution, a student shall be considered a  
65 student of that institution and may not take any courses at  
66 his or her high school. An eligible institution that accepts  
67 an eligible student under the program may not receive any  
68 state funds for that student unless the institution complies  
69 with the requirements of this section.

70 (2) 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



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

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

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

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



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113 course.

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

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

124 (4) The state board shall establish rules to require  
125 local boards of education to award a high school diploma to  
126 any eligible student who is enrolled at an eligible  
127 institution under the program, provided that: (i) the credit  
128 earned at the institution satisfies course requirements needed  
129 for the eligible student to complete high school graduation;  
130 and (ii) the student is exempt from any state assessment  
131 requirements that he or she would have been required to  
132 complete as a junior or senior.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

168           (i) An eligible institution may not charge an eligible



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169 student for coursework taken pursuant to this program and  
170 shall accept the payment made pursuant to subsection (g) as  
171 full payment for the eligible student.

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

178 Section 2. This act shall become effective on July 1,  
179 2026.





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182 Senate

183 Read for the first time and referred .....25-Feb-25  
184 to the Senate committee on Finance  
185 and Taxation Education  
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187 Read for the second time and placed .....27-Feb-25  
188 on the calendar:  
189 0 amendments  
190  
191 Read for the third time and passed .....09-Apr-25  
192 as amended  
193 Yeas 27  
194 Nays 0  
195 Abstains 0  
196  
197

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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