

Act No. 56
Public Acts of 2016
Approved by the Governor
March 29, 2016
Filed with the Secretary of State
March 29, 2016
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 27, 2016

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
98TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016**

Introduced by Senator Robertson

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 216

AN ACT to amend 1979 PA 94, entitled “An act to make appropriations to aid in the support of the public schools, the intermediate school districts, community colleges, and public universities of the state; to make appropriations for certain other purposes relating to education; to provide for the disbursement of the appropriations; to authorize the issuance of certain bonds and provide for the security of those bonds; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state departments, the state board of education, and certain other boards and officials; to create certain funds and provide for their expenditure; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal acts and parts of acts,” by amending sections 4, 6, 98, 107, 230, and 256 (MCL 388.1604, 388.1606, 388.1698, 388.1707, 388.1830, and 388.1856), section 4 as amended by 2012 PA 201, section 6 as amended by 2015 PA 223, sections 98, 230, and 256 as amended by 2015 PA 85, and section 107 as amended by 2015 PA 139.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 4. (1) “Education achievement system” means the achievement authority and all achievement schools.

(2) “Elementary pupil” means a pupil in membership in grades K to 8 in a district not maintaining classes above the eighth grade or in grades K to 6 in a district maintaining classes above the eighth grade. For the purposes of calculating universal service fund (e-rate) discounts, “elementary pupil” includes children enrolled in a preschool program operated by a district in its facilities.

(3) “Extended school year” means an educational program conducted by a district in which pupils must be enrolled but not necessarily in attendance on the pupil membership count day in an extended year program. The mandatory clock hours shall be completed by each pupil not more than 365 calendar days after the pupil’s first day of classes for the school year prescribed. The department shall prescribe pupil, personnel, and other reporting requirements for the educational program.

(4) “Fiscal year” means the state fiscal year that commences October 1 and continues through September 30.

(5) “High school equivalency certificate” means a certificate granted for the successful completion of a high school equivalency test.

(6) “High school equivalency test” means a high school equivalency test approved by the department under section 107.

(7) “High school equivalency test preparation program” means a program that has high school level courses in English language arts, social studies, science, and mathematics and that prepares an individual to successfully complete a high school equivalency test.

(8) “High school pupil” means a pupil in membership in grades 7 to 12, except in a district not maintaining grades above the eighth grade.

Sec. 6. (1) “Center program” means a program operated by a district or by an intermediate district for special education pupils from several districts in programs for pupils with autism spectrum disorder, pupils with severe cognitive impairment, pupils with moderate cognitive impairment, pupils with severe multiple impairments, pupils with hearing impairment, pupils with visual impairment, and pupils with physical impairment or other health impairment. Programs for pupils with emotional impairment housed in buildings that do not serve regular education pupils also qualify. Unless otherwise approved by the department, a center program either shall serve all constituent districts within an intermediate district or shall serve several districts with less than 50% of the pupils residing in the operating district. In addition, special education center program pupils placed part-time in noncenter programs to comply with the least restrictive environment provisions of section 612 of part B of the individuals with disabilities education act, 20 USC 1412, may be considered center program pupils for pupil accounting purposes for the time scheduled in either a center program or a noncenter program.

(2) “District and high school graduation rate” means the annual completion and pupil dropout rate that is calculated by the center pursuant to nationally recognized standards.

(3) “District and high school graduation report” means a report of the number of pupils, excluding adult education participants, in the district for the immediately preceding school year, adjusted for those pupils who have transferred into or out of the district or high school, who leave high school with a diploma or other credential of equal status.

(4) “Membership”, except as otherwise provided in this article, means for a district, a public school academy, the education achievement system, or an intermediate district the sum of the product of .90 times the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day for the current school year, plus the product of .10 times the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the immediately preceding school year. A district’s, public school academy’s, or intermediate district’s membership shall be adjusted as provided under section 25e for pupils who enroll in the district, public school academy, or intermediate district after the pupil membership count day. All pupil counts used in this subsection are as determined by the department and calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by a subsequent department audit. For the purposes of this section and section 6a, for a school of excellence that is a cyber school, as defined in section 551 of the revised school code, MCL 380.551, and is in compliance with section 553a of the revised school code, MCL 380.553a, a pupil’s participation in the cyber school’s educational program is considered regular daily attendance; for the education achievement system, a pupil’s participation in an online educational program of the education achievement system or of an achievement school is considered regular daily attendance; and for a district a pupil’s participation in an online course as defined in section 21f is considered regular daily attendance. The amount of the foundation allowance for a pupil in membership is determined under section 20. In making the calculation of membership, all of the following, as applicable, apply to determining the membership of a district, a public school academy, the education achievement system, or an intermediate district:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, and pursuant to subsection (6), a pupil shall be counted in membership in the pupil’s educating district or districts. An individual pupil shall not be counted for more than a total of 1.0 full-time equated membership.

(b) If a pupil is educated in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence, if the pupil is not being educated as part of a cooperative education program, if the pupil’s district of residence does not give the educating district its approval to count the pupil in membership in the educating district, and if the pupil is not covered by an exception specified in subsection (6) to the requirement that the educating district must have the approval of the pupil’s district of residence to count the pupil in membership, the pupil shall not be counted in membership in any district.

(c) A special education pupil educated by the intermediate district shall be counted in membership in the intermediate district.

(d) A pupil placed by a court or state agency in an on-grounds program of a juvenile detention facility, a child caring institution, or a mental health institution, or a pupil funded under section 53a, shall be counted in membership in the district or intermediate district approved by the department to operate the program.

(e) A pupil enrolled in the Michigan schools for the deaf and blind shall be counted in membership in the pupil’s intermediate district of residence.

(f) A pupil enrolled in a career and technical education program supported by a millage levied over an area larger than a single district or in an area vocational-technical education program established pursuant to section 690 of the revised school code, MCL 380.690, shall be counted only in the pupil’s district of residence.

(g) A pupil enrolled in a public school academy shall be counted in membership in the public school academy.

(h) A pupil enrolled in an achievement school shall be counted in membership in the education achievement system.

(i) For a new district or public school academy beginning its operation after December 31, 1994, or for the education achievement system or an achievement school, membership for the first 2 full or partial fiscal years of operation shall be determined as follows:

(i) If operations begin before the pupil membership count day for the fiscal year, membership is the average number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day for the current school year and on the supplemental count day for the current school year, as determined by the department and calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance on the pupil membership count day plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by a subsequent department audit, plus the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the current school year, and dividing that sum by 2.

(ii) If operations begin after the pupil membership count day for the fiscal year and not later than the supplemental count day for the fiscal year, membership is the final audited count of the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the supplemental count day for the current school year.

(j) If a district is the authorizing body for a public school academy, then, in the first school year in which pupils are counted in membership on the pupil membership count day in the public school academy, the determination of the district's membership shall exclude from the district's pupil count for the immediately preceding supplemental count day any pupils who are counted in the public school academy on that first pupil membership count day who were also counted in the district on the immediately preceding supplemental count day.

(k) In a district, a public school academy, the education achievement system, or an intermediate district operating an extended school year program approved by the superintendent, a pupil enrolled, but not scheduled to be in regular daily attendance on a pupil membership count day, shall be counted.

(l) To be counted in membership, a pupil shall meet the minimum age requirement to be eligible to attend school under section 1147 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1147, or shall be enrolled under subsection (3) of that section, and shall be less than 20 years of age on September 1 of the school year except as follows:

(i) A special education pupil who is enrolled and receiving instruction in a special education program or service approved by the department, who does not have a high school diploma, and who is less than 26 years of age as of September 1 of the current school year shall be counted in membership.

(ii) A pupil who is determined by the department to meet all of the following may be counted in membership:

(A) Is enrolled in a public school academy or an alternative education high school diploma program, that is primarily focused on educating homeless pupils.

(B) Had dropped out of school for more than 1 year and has re-entered school.

(C) Is less than 22 years of age as of September 1 of the current school year.

(D) Is considered to be homeless under 42 USC 11302, or was counted in membership under this subparagraph in 2014-2015.

(iii) If a child does not meet the minimum age requirement to be eligible to attend school for that school year under section 1147 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1147, but will be 5 years of age not later than December 1 of that school year, the district may count the child in membership for that school year if the parent or legal guardian has notified the district in writing that he or she intends to enroll the child in kindergarten for that school year.

(m) An individual who has obtained a high school diploma shall not be counted in membership. An individual who has achieved a high school equivalency certificate shall not be counted in membership unless the individual is a student with a disability as defined in R 340.1702 of the Michigan administrative code. An individual participating in a job training program funded under former section 107a or a jobs program funded under former section 107b, administered by the Michigan strategic fund, or participating in any successor of either of those 2 programs, shall not be counted in membership.

(n) If a pupil counted in membership in a public school academy or the education achievement system is also educated by a district or intermediate district as part of a cooperative education program, the pupil shall be counted in membership only in the public school academy or the education achievement system unless a written agreement signed by all parties designates the party or parties in which the pupil shall be counted in membership, and the instructional time scheduled for the pupil in the district or intermediate district shall be included in the full-time equated membership determination under subdivision (q) and section 101. However, for pupils receiving instruction in both a public school academy or the education achievement system and in a district or intermediate district but not as a part of a cooperative education program, the following apply:

(i) If the public school academy or the education achievement system provides instruction for at least 1/2 of the class hours required under section 101, the public school academy or the education achievement system shall receive as its prorated share of the full-time equated membership for each of those pupils an amount equal to 1 times the product of the hours of instruction the public school academy or the education achievement system provides divided by the number of hours required under section 101 for full-time equivalency, and the remainder of the full-time membership for each of those pupils shall be allocated to the district or intermediate district providing the remainder of the hours of instruction.

(ii) If the public school academy or the education achievement system provides instruction for less than 1/2 of the class hours required under section 101, the district or intermediate district providing the remainder of the hours of instruction shall receive as its prorated share of the full-time equated membership for each of those pupils an amount equal to 1 times the product of the hours of instruction the district or intermediate district provides divided by the number of hours required under section 101 for full-time equivalency, and the remainder of the full-time membership for each of those pupils shall be allocated to the public school academy or the education achievement system.

(o) An individual less than 16 years of age as of September 1 of the current school year who is being educated in an alternative education program shall not be counted in membership if there are also adult education participants being educated in the same program or classroom.

(p) The department shall give a uniform interpretation of full-time and part-time memberships.

(q) The number of class hours used to calculate full-time equated memberships shall be consistent with section 101. In determining full-time equated memberships for pupils who are enrolled in a postsecondary institution, a pupil shall not be considered to be less than a full-time equated pupil solely because of the effect of his or her postsecondary enrollment, including necessary travel time, on the number of class hours provided by the district to the pupil.

(r) Full-time equated memberships for pupils in kindergarten shall be determined by dividing the number of instructional hours scheduled and provided per year per kindergarten pupil by the same number used for determining full-time equated memberships for pupils in grades 1 to 12. However, to the extent allowable under federal law, for a district or public school academy that provides evidence satisfactory to the department that it used federal title I money in the 2 immediately preceding school fiscal years to fund full-time kindergarten, full-time equated memberships for pupils in kindergarten shall be determined by dividing the number of class hours scheduled and provided per year per kindergarten pupil by a number equal to 1/2 the number used for determining full-time equated memberships for pupils in grades 1 to 12. The change in the counting of full-time equated memberships for pupils in kindergarten that took effect for 2012-2013 is not a mandate.

(s) For a district, a public school academy, or the education achievement system that has pupils enrolled in a grade level that was not offered by the district, the public school academy, or the education achievement system in the immediately preceding school year, the number of pupils enrolled in that grade level to be counted in membership is the average of the number of those pupils enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the pupil membership count day and the supplemental count day of the current school year, as determined by the department. Membership shall be calculated by adding the number of pupils registered for attendance in that grade level on the pupil membership count day plus pupils received by transfer and minus pupils lost as defined by rules promulgated by the superintendent, and as corrected by subsequent department audit, plus the final audited count from the supplemental count day for the current school year, and dividing that sum by 2.

(t) A pupil enrolled in a cooperative education program may be counted in membership in the pupil's district of residence with the written approval of all parties to the cooperative agreement.

(u) If, as a result of a disciplinary action, a district determines through the district's alternative or disciplinary education program that the best instructional placement for a pupil is in the pupil's home or otherwise apart from the general school population, if that placement is authorized in writing by the district superintendent and district alternative or disciplinary education supervisor, and if the district provides appropriate instruction as described in this subdivision to the pupil at the pupil's home or otherwise apart from the general school population, the district may count the pupil in membership on a pro rata basis, with the proration based on the number of hours of instruction the district actually provides to the pupil divided by the number of hours required under section 101 for full-time equivalency. For the purposes of this subdivision, a district shall be considered to be providing appropriate instruction if all of the following are met:

(i) The district provides at least 2 nonconsecutive hours of instruction per week to the pupil at the pupil's home or otherwise apart from the general school population under the supervision of a certificated teacher.

(ii) The district provides instructional materials, resources, and supplies that are comparable to those otherwise provided in the district's alternative education program.

(iii) Course content is comparable to that in the district's alternative education program.

(iv) Credit earned is awarded to the pupil and placed on the pupil's transcript.

(v) If a pupil was enrolled in a public school academy on the pupil membership count day, if the public school academy's contract with its authorizing body is revoked or the public school academy otherwise ceases to operate, and if the pupil enrolls in a district or the education achievement system within 45 days after the pupil membership count day, the department shall adjust the district's or the education achievement system's pupil count for the pupil membership count day to include the pupil in the count.

(w) For a public school academy that has been in operation for at least 2 years and that suspended operations for at least 1 semester and is resuming operations, membership is the sum of the product of .90 times the number of full-time equated pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance on the first pupil membership count day or supplemental count day, whichever is first, occurring after operations resume, plus the product of .10 times the final audited count from the most recent pupil membership count day or supplemental count day that occurred before suspending operations, as determined by the superintendent.

(x) If a district's membership for a particular fiscal year, as otherwise calculated under this subsection, would be less than 1,550 pupils and the district has 4.5 or fewer pupils per square mile, as determined by the department, and if the district does not receive funding under section 22d(2), the district's membership shall be considered to be the membership figure calculated under this subdivision. If a district educates and counts in its membership pupils in grades 9 to 12 who reside in a contiguous district that does not operate grades 9 to 12 and if 1 or both of the affected districts request the department to use the determination allowed under this sentence, the department shall include the square mileage of both districts in determining the number of pupils per square mile for each of the districts for the purposes of this subdivision. The membership figure calculated under this subdivision is the greater of the following:

(i) The average of the district's membership for the 3-fiscal-year period ending with that fiscal year, calculated by adding the district's actual membership for each of those 3 fiscal years, as otherwise calculated under this subsection, and dividing the sum of those 3 membership figures by 3.

(ii) The district's actual membership for that fiscal year as otherwise calculated under this subsection.

(y) Full-time equated memberships for special education pupils who are not enrolled in kindergarten but are enrolled in a classroom program under R 340.1754 of the Michigan administrative code shall be determined by dividing the number of class hours scheduled and provided per year by 450. Full-time equated memberships for special education pupils who are not enrolled in kindergarten but are receiving early childhood special education services under R 340.1755 or R 340.1862 of the Michigan administrative code shall be determined by dividing the number of hours of service scheduled and provided per year per-pupil by 180.

(z) A pupil of a district that begins its school year after Labor Day who is enrolled in an intermediate district program that begins before Labor Day shall not be considered to be less than a full-time pupil solely due to instructional time scheduled but not attended by the pupil before Labor Day.

(aa) For the first year in which a pupil is counted in membership on the pupil membership count day in a middle college program, the membership is the average of the full-time equated membership on the pupil membership count day and on the supplemental count day for the current school year, as determined by the department. If a pupil described in this subdivision was counted in membership by the operating district on the immediately preceding supplemental count day, the pupil shall be excluded from the district's immediately preceding supplemental count for the purposes of determining the district's membership.

(bb) A district, a public school academy, or the education achievement system that educates a pupil who attends a United States Olympic Education Center may count the pupil in membership regardless of whether or not the pupil is a resident of this state.

(cc) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil's district of residence pursuant to section 1148(2) of the revised school code, MCL 380.1148, shall be counted in the educating district or the education achievement system.

(dd) For a pupil enrolled in a dropout recovery program that meets the requirements of section 23a, the pupil shall be counted as 1/12 of a full-time equated membership for each month that the district operating the program reports that the pupil was enrolled in the program and was in full attendance. However, if the special membership counting provisions under this subdivision and the operation of the other membership counting provisions under this subsection result in a pupil being counted as more than 1.0 FTE in a fiscal year, the payment made for the pupil under sections 22a and 22b shall not be based on more than 1.0 FTE for that pupil, and any portion of an FTE for that pupil that exceeds 1.0 shall instead be paid under section 25g. The district operating the program shall report to the center the number of pupils who were enrolled in the program and were in full attendance for a month not later than the tenth day of the next month. A district shall not report a pupil as being in full attendance for a month unless both of the following are met:

(i) A personalized learning plan is in place on or before the first school day of the month for the first month the pupil participates in the program.

(ii) The pupil meets the district's definition under section 23a of satisfactory monthly progress for that month or, if the pupil does not meet that definition of satisfactory monthly progress for that month, the pupil did meet that definition of satisfactory monthly progress in the immediately preceding month and appropriate interventions are implemented within 10 school days after it is determined that the pupil does not meet that definition of satisfactory monthly progress.

(ee) A pupil participating in an online course under section 21f shall be counted in membership in the district enrolling the pupil.

(ff) If a public school academy that is not in its first or second year of operation closes at the end of a school year and does not reopen for the next school year, the department shall adjust the membership count of the district or the education achievement system in which a former pupil of the public school academy enrolls and is in regular daily attendance for the next school year to ensure that the district or the education achievement system receives the same amount of membership aid for the pupil as if the pupil were counted in the district or the education achievement system on the supplemental count day of the preceding school year.

(g) "Public school academy" means that term as defined in section 5 of the revised school code, MCL 380.5.

(6) “Pupil” means a person in membership in a public school. A district must have the approval of the pupil’s district of residence to count the pupil in membership, except approval by the pupil’s district of residence is not required for any of the following:

- (a) A nonpublic part-time pupil enrolled in grades K to 12 in accordance with section 166b.
- (b) A pupil receiving 1/2 or less of his or her instruction in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence.
- (c) A pupil enrolled in a public school academy or the education achievement system.
- (d) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence under an intermediate district schools of choice pilot program as described in section 91a or former section 91 if the intermediate district and its constituent districts have been exempted from section 105.
- (e) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence if the pupil is enrolled in accordance with section 105 or 105c.
- (f) A pupil who has made an official written complaint or whose parent or legal guardian has made an official written complaint to law enforcement officials and to school officials of the pupil’s district of residence that the pupil has been the victim of a criminal sexual assault or other serious assault, if the official complaint either indicates that the assault occurred at school or that the assault was committed by 1 or more other pupils enrolled in the school the pupil would otherwise attend in the district of residence or by an employee of the district of residence. A person who intentionally makes a false report of a crime to law enforcement officials for the purposes of this subdivision is subject to section 411a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.411a, which provides criminal penalties for that conduct. As used in this subdivision:
 - (i) “At school” means in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises.
 - (ii) “Serious assault” means an act that constitutes a felony violation of chapter XI of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.81 to 750.90h, or that constitutes an assault and infliction of serious or aggravated injury under section 81a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.81a.
- (g) A pupil whose district of residence changed after the pupil membership count day and before the supplemental count day and who continues to be enrolled on the supplemental count day as a nonresident in the district in which he or she was enrolled as a resident on the pupil membership count day of the same school year.
- (h) A pupil enrolled in an alternative education program operated by a district other than his or her district of residence who meets 1 or more of the following:
 - (i) The pupil has been suspended or expelled from his or her district of residence for any reason, including, but not limited to, a suspension or expulsion under section 1310, 1311, or 1311a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1310, 380.1311, and 380.1311a.
 - (ii) The pupil had previously dropped out of school.
 - (iii) The pupil is pregnant or is a parent.
 - (iv) The pupil has been referred to the program by a court.
- (i) A pupil enrolled in the Michigan Virtual School, for the pupil’s enrollment in the Michigan Virtual School.
- (j) A pupil who is the child of a person who works at the district or who is the child of a person who worked at the district as of the time the pupil first enrolled in the district but who no longer works at the district due to a workforce reduction. As used in this subdivision, “child” includes an adopted child, stepchild, or legal ward.
- (k) An expelled pupil who has been denied reinstatement by the expelling district and is reinstated by another school board under section 1311 or 1311a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1311 and 380.1311a.
- (l) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence in a middle college program if the pupil’s district of residence and the enrolling district are both constituent districts of the same intermediate district.
- (m) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence who attends a United States Olympic Education Center.
- (n) A pupil enrolled in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence pursuant to section 1148(2) of the revised school code, MCL 380.1148.
- (o) A pupil who enrolls in a district other than the pupil’s district of residence as a result of the pupil’s school not making adequate yearly progress under the no child left behind act of 2001, Public Law 107-110.

However, if a district educates pupils who reside in another district and if the primary instructional site for those pupils is established by the educating district after 2009-2010 and is located within the boundaries of that other district, the educating district must have the approval of that other district to count those pupils in membership.

(7) “Pupil membership count day” of a district or intermediate district means:

- (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the first Wednesday in October each school year or, for a district or building in which school is not in session on that Wednesday due to conditions not within the control of school authorities, with the approval of the superintendent, the immediately following day on which school is in session in the district or building.

(b) For a district or intermediate district maintaining school during the entire school year, the following days:

- (i) Fourth Wednesday in July.
- (ii) First Wednesday in October.
- (iii) Second Wednesday in February.
- (iv) Fourth Wednesday in April.

(8) "Pupils in grades K to 12 actually enrolled and in regular daily attendance" means pupils in grades K to 12 in attendance and receiving instruction in all classes for which they are enrolled on the pupil membership count day or the supplemental count day, as applicable. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, a pupil who is absent from any of the classes in which the pupil is enrolled on the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day and who does not attend each of those classes during the 10 consecutive school days immediately following the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day, except for a pupil who has been excused by the district, shall not be counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership. A pupil who is excused from attendance on the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day and who fails to attend each of the classes in which the pupil is enrolled within 30 calendar days after the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day shall not be counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership. In addition, a pupil who was enrolled and in attendance in a district, an intermediate district, a public school academy, or the education achievement system before the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day of a particular year but was expelled or suspended on the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day shall only be counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership if the pupil resumed attendance in the district, intermediate district, public school academy, or education achievement system within 45 days after the pupil membership count day or supplemental count day of that particular year. Pupils not counted as 1.0 full-time equated membership due to an absence from a class shall be counted as a prorated membership for the classes the pupil attended. For purposes of this subsection, "class" means a period of time in 1 day when pupils and a certificated teacher or legally qualified substitute teacher are together and instruction is taking place.

(9) "Rule" means a rule promulgated pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 to 24.328.

(10) "The revised school code" means 1976 PA 451, MCL 380.1 to 380.1852.

(11) "School district of the first class", "first class school district", and "district of the first class" mean, for the purposes of this article only, a district that had at least 40,000 pupils in membership for the immediately preceding fiscal year.

(12) "School fiscal year" means a fiscal year that commences July 1 and continues through June 30.

(13) "State board" means the state board of education.

(14) "Superintendent", unless the context clearly refers to a district or intermediate district superintendent, means the superintendent of public instruction described in section 3 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.

(15) "Supplemental count day" means the day on which the supplemental pupil count is conducted under section 6a.

(16) "Tuition pupil" means a pupil of school age attending school in a district other than the pupil's district of residence for whom tuition may be charged to the district of residence. Tuition pupil does not include a pupil who is a special education pupil, a pupil described in subsection (6)(c) to (o), or a pupil whose parent or guardian voluntarily enrolls the pupil in a district that is not the pupil's district of residence. A pupil's district of residence shall not require a high school tuition pupil, as provided under section 111, to attend another school district after the pupil has been assigned to a school district.

(17) "State school aid fund" means the state school aid fund established in section 11 of article IX of the state constitution of 1963.

(18) "Taxable value" means the taxable value of property as determined under section 27a of the general property tax act, 1893 PA 206, MCL 211.27a.

(19) "Textbook" means a book, electronic book, or other instructional print or electronic resource that is selected and approved by the governing board of a district or, for an achievement school, by the chancellor of the achievement authority and that contains a presentation of principles of a subject, or that is a literary work relevant to the study of a subject required for the use of classroom pupils, or another type of course material that forms the basis of classroom instruction.

(20) "Total state aid" or "total state school aid" means the total combined amount of all funds due to a district, intermediate district, or other entity under all of the provisions of this article.

Sec. 98. (1) From the general fund money appropriated in section 11, there is allocated an amount not to exceed \$7,387,500.00 for 2015-2016 for the purposes described in this section.

(2) The Michigan Virtual University shall operate the Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute. The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall do all of the following:

- (a) Support and accelerate innovation in education through the following activities:
 - (i) Test, evaluate, and recommend as appropriate new technology-based instructional tools and resources.

(ii) Research, design, and recommend digital education delivery models for use by pupils and teachers that include age-appropriate multimedia instructional content.

(iii) Research, develop, and recommend annually to the department criteria by which cyber schools and online course providers should be monitored and evaluated to ensure a quality education for their pupils.

(iv) Based on pupil completion and performance data reported to the department or the center for educational performance and information from cyber schools and other online course providers operating in this state, analyze the effectiveness of online learning delivery models in preparing pupils to be college- and career-ready and publish a report that highlights enrollment totals, completion rates, and the overall impact on pupils. The report shall be submitted to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state school aid, the state budget director, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the department not later than March 31, 2016.

(v) Before August 31, 2016, provide an extensive professional development program to at least 500 educational personnel, including teachers, school administrators, and school board members, that focuses on the effective integration of digital learning into curricula and instruction. Not later than December 1, 2016, the Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall submit a report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state school aid, the state budget director, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the department on the number and percentage of teachers, school administrators, and school board members who have received professional development services from the Michigan Virtual University. The report shall also identify barriers and other opportunities to encourage the adoption of digital learning in the public education system.

(vi) Identify and share best practices for planning, implementing, and evaluating online and blended education delivery models with intermediate districts, districts, and public school academies to accelerate the adoption of innovative education delivery models statewide.

(b) Provide leadership for this state's system of digital learning education by doing the following activities:

(i) Develop and report policy recommendations to the governor and the legislature that accelerate the expansion of effective online learning in this state's schools.

(ii) Provide a clearinghouse for research reports, academic studies, evaluations, and other information related to online learning.

(iii) Promote and distribute the most current instructional design standards and guidelines for online teaching.

(iv) In collaboration with the department and interested colleges and universities in this state, support implementation and improvements related to effective digital learning instruction.

(v) Pursue public/private partnerships that include districts to study and implement competency-based technology-rich online learning models.

(vi) Create a statewide network of school-based mentors serving as liaisons between pupils, online instructors, parents, and school staff and provide mentors with research-based training and technical assistance designed to help more pupils be successful online learners.

(vii) Convene focus groups and conduct annual surveys of teachers, administrators, pupils, parents, and others to identify barriers and opportunities related to online learning.

(viii) Produce an annual consumer awareness report for schools and parents about effective online education providers and education delivery models, performance data, cost structures, and research trends.

(ix) Research and establish an Internet-based platform that educators can use to create student-centric learning tools and resources and facilitate a user network that assists educators in using the platform. As part of this initiative, the Michigan Virtual University shall work collaboratively with districts and intermediate districts to establish a plan to make available online resources that align to Michigan's K-12 curriculum standards for use by students, educators, and parents.

(x) Create and maintain a public statewide catalog of online learning courses being offered by all public schools and community colleges in this state. The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall identify and develop a list of nationally recognized best practices for online learning and use this list to support reviews of online course vendors, courses, and instructional practices. The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall also provide a mechanism for intermediate districts to use the identified best practices to review content offered by constituent districts. The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall review the online course offerings of the Michigan Virtual University, and make the results from these reviews available to the public as part of the statewide catalog. The Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute shall ensure that the statewide catalog is made available to the public on the Michigan Virtual University website and shall allow the ability to link it to each district's website as provided for in section 21f. The statewide catalog shall also contain all of the following:

(A) The number of enrollments in each online course in the immediately preceding school year.

(B) The number of enrollments that earned 60% or more of the total course points for each online course in the immediately preceding school year.

(C) The completion rate for each online course.

(xi) Develop prototype and pilot registration, payment services, and transcript functionality to the statewide catalog and train key stakeholders on how to use new features.

(xii) Collaborate with key stakeholders to examine district level accountability and teacher effectiveness issues related to online learning under section 21f and make findings and recommendations publicly available.

(3) To further enhance its expertise and leadership in digital learning, the Michigan Virtual University shall continue to operate the Michigan Virtual School as a statewide laboratory and quality model of instruction by implementing online and blended learning solutions for Michigan schools in accordance with the following parameters:

(a) The Michigan Virtual School must maintain its accreditation status from recognized national and international accrediting entities.

(b) The Michigan Virtual University shall use no more than \$1,000,000.00 of the amount allocated under this section to subsidize the cost paid by districts for online courses.

(c) In providing educators responsible for the teaching of online courses as provided for in this section, the Michigan Virtual School shall follow the requirements to request and assess, and the department of state police shall provide, a criminal history check and criminal records check under sections 1230 and 1230a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1230 and 380.1230a, in the same manner as if the Michigan Virtual School were a school district under those sections.

(4) If the course offerings are included in the statewide catalog of online courses under subsection (2)(b)(ix), the Michigan Virtual School operated by the Michigan Virtual University may offer online course offerings, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(a) Information technology courses.

(b) College level equivalent courses, as defined in section 1471 of the revised school code, MCL 380.1471.

(c) Courses and dual enrollment opportunities.

(d) Programs and services for at-risk pupils.

(e) High school equivalency test preparation courses for adjudicated youth.

(f) Special interest courses.

(g) Professional development programs for teachers, school administrators, other school employees, and school board members.

(5) If a home-schooled or nonpublic school student is a resident of a district that subscribes to services provided by the Michigan Virtual School, the student may use the services provided by the Michigan Virtual School to the district without charge to the student beyond what is charged to a district pupil using the same services.

(6) Not later than December 1 of each fiscal year, the Michigan Virtual University shall provide a report to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state school aid, the state budget director, the house and senate fiscal agencies, and the department that includes at least all of the following information related to the Michigan Virtual School for the preceding state fiscal year:

(a) A list of the districts served by the Michigan Virtual School.

(b) A list of online course titles available to districts.

(c) The total number of online course enrollments and information on registrations and completions by course.

(d) The overall course completion rate percentage.

(7) The governor may appoint an advisory group for the Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute established under subsection (2). The members of the advisory group shall serve at the pleasure of the governor and shall serve without compensation. The purpose of the advisory group is to make recommendations to the governor, the legislature, and the president and board of the Michigan Virtual University that will accelerate innovation in this state's education system in a manner that will prepare elementary and secondary students to be career and college ready and that will promote the goal of increasing the percentage of citizens of this state with high-quality degrees and credentials to at least 60% by 2025.

(8) Not later than November 1, 2015, the Michigan Virtual University shall submit to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state school aid, the state budget director, and the house and senate fiscal agencies a detailed budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year that includes a breakdown on its projected costs to deliver online educational services to districts and a summary of the anticipated fees to be paid by districts for those services. Not later than March 1 each year, the Michigan Virtual University shall submit to the house and senate appropriations subcommittees on state school aid, the state budget director, and the house and senate fiscal agencies a breakdown on its actual costs to deliver online educational services to districts and a summary of the actual fees paid by districts for those services based on audited financial statements for the immediately preceding fiscal year.

(9) As used in this section:

(a) “Blended learning” means a hybrid instructional delivery model where pupils are provided content, instruction, and assessment, in part at a supervised educational facility away from home where the pupil and a teacher with a valid Michigan teaching certificate are in the same physical location and in part through Internet-connected learning environments with some degree of pupil control over time, location, and pace of instruction.

(b) “Cyber school” means a full-time instructional program of online courses for pupils that may or may not require attendance at a physical school location.

(c) “Digital learning” means instruction delivered via a web-based educational delivery system that uses various information technologies to provide a structured learning environment, including online and blended learning instructional methods.

(d) “Online course” means a course of study that is capable of generating a credit or a grade, that is provided in an interactive Internet-connected learning environment, in which pupils are separated from their teachers by time or location, or both, and in which a teacher who holds a valid Michigan teaching certificate is responsible for providing instruction, determining appropriate instructional methods for each pupil, diagnosing learning needs, assessing pupil learning, prescribing intervention strategies, reporting outcomes, and evaluating the effects of instruction and support strategies.

Sec. 107. (1) From the appropriation in section 11, there is allocated an amount not to exceed \$25,000,000.00 for 2015-2016 for adult education programs authorized under this section. Except as otherwise provided under subsections (16) and (18), funds allocated under this section are restricted for adult education programs as authorized under this section only. A recipient of funds under this section shall not use those funds for any other purpose.

(2) To be eligible for funding under this section, an eligible adult education provider shall employ certificated teachers and qualified administrative staff and shall offer continuing education opportunities for teachers to allow them to maintain certification.

(3) To be eligible to be a participant funded under this section, an individual shall be enrolled in an adult basic education program, an adult English as a second language program, a high school equivalency test preparation program, a job- or employment-related program, or a high school completion program, that meets the requirements of this section, and for which instruction is provided, and shall meet either of the following, as applicable:

(a) If the individual has achieved a high school equivalency certificate, the individual meets 1 of the following:

(i) Is less than 20 years of age on September 1 of the school year, is not attending an institution of higher education, and is enrolled in a job- or employment-related program through a referral by an employer or by a Michigan workforce agency.

(ii) Is enrolled in an English as a second language program.

(iii) Is enrolled in a high school completion program.

(iv) Is at least 20 years of age on September 1 of the school year, is enrolled in an adult basic education program, and is determined by a department-approved assessment, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, to be below grade 9 level in reading or mathematics, or both.

(b) If the individual has not obtained a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate, the individual meets 1 of the following:

(i) Is at least 20 years of age on September 1 of the school year.

(ii) Is at least 16 years of age on September 1 of the school year, has been permanently expelled from school under section 1311(2) or 1311a of the revised school code, MCL 380.1311 and 380.1311a, and has no appropriate alternative education program available through his or her district of residence.

(4) By April 1 of each fiscal year, the intermediate districts within a prosperity region or subregion shall determine which intermediate district will serve as the prosperity region's or subregion's fiscal agent for the next fiscal year and shall notify the department in a form and manner determined by the department. The department shall approve or disapprove of the prosperity region's or subregion's selected fiscal agent. From the funds allocated under subsection (1), an amount as determined under this subsection shall be allocated to each intermediate district serving as a fiscal agent for adult education programs in each of the prosperity regions or subregions identified by the department. An intermediate district shall not use more than 5% of the funds allocated under this subsection for administration costs for serving as the fiscal agent. Beginning in 2014-2015, 67% of the allocation provided to each intermediate district serving as a fiscal agent shall be based on the proportion of total funding formerly received by the adult education providers in that prosperity region or subregion in 2013-2014, and 33% shall be allocated based on the factors in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c). For 2016-2017, 33% of the allocation provided to each intermediate district serving as a fiscal agent shall be based upon the proportion of total funding formerly received by the adult education providers in that prosperity region in 2013-2014 and

67% of the allocation shall be based upon the factors in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c). Beginning in 2017-2018, 100% of the allocation provided to each intermediate district serving as a fiscal agent shall be based on the factors in subdivisions (a), (b), and (c). The funding factors for this section are as follows:

(a) Sixty percent of this portion of the funding shall be distributed based upon the proportion of the state population of individuals between the ages of 18 and 24 that are not high school graduates that resides in each of the prosperity regions or subregions, as reported by the most recent 5-year estimates from the American community survey (ACS) from the United States Census Bureau.

(b) Thirty-five percent of this portion of the funding shall be distributed based upon the proportion of the state population of individuals age 25 or older who are not high school graduates that resides in each of the prosperity regions or subregions, as reported by the most recent 5-year estimates from the American community survey (ACS) from the United States Census Bureau.

(c) Five percent of this portion of the funding shall be distributed based upon the proportion of the state population of individuals age 18 or older who lack basic English language proficiency that resides in each of the prosperity regions or subregions, as reported by the most recent 5-year estimates from the American community survey (ACS) from the United States Census Bureau.

(5) To be an eligible fiscal agent, an intermediate district must agree to do the following in a form and manner determined by the department:

(a) Distribute funds to adult education programs in a prosperity region or subregion as described in this section.

(b) Collaborate with the talent district career council, which is an advisory council of the workforce development boards located in the prosperity region or subregion, or its successor, to develop a regional strategy that aligns adult education programs and services into an efficient and effective delivery system for adult education learners, with special consideration for providing contextualized learning and career pathways.

(c) Collaborate with the talent district career council, which is an advisory council of the workforce development boards located in the prosperity region or subregion, or its successor, to create a local process and criteria that will identify eligible adult education providers to receive funds allocated under this section based on location, demand for services, past performance, quality indicators as identified by the department, and cost to provide instructional services. The fiscal agent shall determine all local processes, criteria, and provider determinations. However, the local processes, criteria, and provider services must be approved by the department before funds may be distributed to the fiscal agent.

(d) Provide oversight to its adult education providers throughout the program year to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

(e) Report adult education program and participant data and information as prescribed by the department.

(6) The amount allocated under this section per full-time equated participant shall not exceed \$2,850.00 for a 450-hour program. The amount shall be proportionately reduced for a program offering less than 450 hours of instruction.

(7) An adult basic education program or an adult English as a second language program operated on a year-round or school year basis may be funded under this section, subject to all of the following:

(a) The program enrolls adults who are determined by a department-approved assessment, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, to be below ninth grade level in reading or mathematics, or both, or to lack basic English proficiency.

(b) The program tests individuals for eligibility under subdivision (a) before enrollment and upon completion of the program in compliance with the state-approved assessment policy.

(c) A participant in an adult basic education program is eligible for reimbursement until 1 of the following occurs:

(i) The participant's reading and mathematics proficiency are assessed at or above the ninth grade level.

(ii) The participant fails to show progress on 2 successive assessments after having completed at least 450 hours of instruction.

(d) A funding recipient enrolling a participant in an English as a second language program is eligible for funding according to subsection (11) until the participant meets 1 of the following:

(i) The participant is assessed as having attained basic English proficiency as determined by a department-approved assessment.

(ii) The participant fails to show progress on 2 successive department-approved assessments after having completed at least 450 hours of instruction. The department shall provide information to a funding recipient regarding appropriate assessment instruments for this program.

(8) A high school equivalency test preparation program operated on a year-round or school year basis may be funded under this section, subject to all of the following:

(a) The program enrolls adults who do not have a high school diploma.

(b) The program shall administer a pre-test approved by the department before enrolling an individual to determine the individual's literacy levels, shall administer a high school equivalency practice test to determine the individual's potential for success on the high school equivalency test, and shall administer a post-test upon completion of the program in compliance with the state-approved assessment policy.

(c) A funding recipient shall receive funding according to subsection (11) for a participant, and a participant may be enrolled in the program until 1 of the following occurs:

(i) The participant achieves a high school equivalency certificate.

(ii) The participant fails to show progress on 2 successive department-approved assessments used to determine readiness to take a high school equivalency test after having completed at least 450 hours of instruction.

(9) A high school completion program operated on a year-round or school year basis may be funded under this section, subject to all of the following:

(a) The program enrolls adults who do not have a high school diploma.

(b) The program tests participants described in subdivision (a) before enrollment and upon completion of the program in compliance with the state-approved assessment policy.

(c) A funding recipient shall receive funding according to subsection (11) for a participant in a course offered under this subsection until 1 of the following occurs:

(i) The participant passes the course and earns a high school diploma.

(ii) The participant fails to earn credit in 2 successive semesters or terms in which the participant is enrolled after having completed at least 900 hours of instruction.

(10) A job- or employment-related adult education program operated on a year-round or school year basis may be funded under this section, subject to all of the following:

(a) The program enrolls adults referred by their employer who are less than 20 years of age, have a high school diploma, are determined to be in need of remedial mathematics or communication arts skills, and are not attending an institution of higher education.

(b) The program tests participants described in subdivision (a) before enrollment and upon completion of the program in compliance with the department-approved assessment policy.

(c) An individual may be enrolled in this program and the grant recipient shall receive funding according to subsection (11) until 1 of the following occurs:

(i) The individual achieves the requisite skills as determined by department-approved assessment instruments.

(ii) The individual fails to show progress on 2 successive assessments after having completed at least 450 hours of instruction.

(11) A funding recipient shall receive payments under this section in accordance with the following:

(a) Eighty percent for enrollment of eligible participants.

(b) Twenty percent for participant completion of the adult basic education objectives by achieving an educational gain as determined by the national reporting system levels; for achieving basic English proficiency, as determined by the department; for achieving a high school equivalency certificate or passage of 1 or more individual high school equivalency tests; for attainment of a high school diploma or passage of a course required for a participant to attain a high school diploma; for enrollment in a postsecondary institution, or for entry into or retention of employment, as applicable.

(12) A person who is not eligible to be a participant funded under this section may receive adult education services upon the payment of tuition. In addition, a person who is not eligible to be served in a program under this section due to the program limitations specified in subsection (7), (8), (9), or (10) may continue to receive adult education services in that program upon the payment of tuition. The tuition level shall be determined by the local or intermediate district conducting the program.

(13) An individual who is an inmate in a state correctional facility shall not be counted as a participant under this section.

(14) A funding recipient shall not commingle money received under this section or from another source for adult education purposes with any other funds and shall establish a separate ledger account for funds received under this section. This subsection does not prohibit a district from using general funds of the district to support an adult education or community education program.

(15) A funding recipient receiving funds under this section may establish a sliding scale of tuition rates based upon a participant's family income. A funding recipient may charge a participant tuition to receive adult education services under this section from that sliding scale of tuition rates on a uniform basis. The amount of tuition charged per participant shall not exceed the actual operating cost per participant minus any funds received under this section per participant. A funding recipient may not charge a participant tuition under this section if the participant's income is at or below 200% of the federal poverty guidelines published by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

(16) In order to receive funds under this section, a funding recipient shall furnish to the department, in a form and manner determined by the department, all information needed to administer this program and meet federal reporting requirements; shall allow the department or the department's designee to review all records related to the program for which it receives funds; and shall reimburse the state for all disallowances found in the review, as determined by the department. In addition, a funding recipient shall agree to pay to a career and technical education program under section 61a the amount of funding received under this section in the proportion of career and technical education coursework used to satisfy adult basic education programming, as billed to the funding recipient by programs operating under section 61a.

(17) All intermediate district participant audits of adult education programs shall be performed pursuant to the adult education participant auditing and accounting manuals published by the department.

(18) From the amount appropriated in subsection (1), an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 shall be allocated for 2015-2016 to not more than 1 pilot program that is located in a prosperity region with 2 or more subregions and that connects adult education participants directly with employers by linking adult education, career and technical skills, and workforce development. To be eligible for funding under this subsection, a pilot program shall provide a collaboration linking adult education programs within the county, the area career/technical center, and local employers, and shall meet the additional criteria in subsections (19) and (20). Funding under this subsection for 2015-2016 is for the first of 3 years of funding.

(19) A pilot program funded under subsection (18) shall require adult education staff to work with Michigan works agency to identify a cohort of participants who are most prepared to successfully enter the workforce. Participants identified under this subsection shall be dually enrolled in adult education programming and at least 1 technical course at the area career/technical center.

(20) A pilot program funded under subsection (18) shall have on staff an adult education navigator who will serve as a caseworker for each participant identified under subsection (19). The navigator shall work with adult education staff and potential employers to design an educational program best suited to the personal and employment needs of the participant, and shall work with human service agencies or other entities to address any barrier in the way of participant access.

(21) Not later than December 1, 2016, the pilot program funded under subsection (18) shall provide to the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on school aid and to the senate and house fiscal agencies a report detailing number of participants, graduation rates, and a measure of transitioning to employment.

(22) The department shall develop an application process for a pilot program to be funded under subsection (18) and shall award funding not later than November 1, 2015. Funding allocated under subsection (18) may be paid on a schedule other than that specified under section 17b.

(23) The department shall approve at least 1 high school equivalency test and determine whether a high school equivalency certificate meets the requisite standards for high school equivalency in this state.

(24) As used in this section:

(a) "Career pathway" means a combination of rigorous and high-quality education, training, and other services that comply with all of the following:

(i) Aligns with the skill needs of industries in the economy of this state or in the regional economy involved.

(ii) Prepares an individual to be successful in any of a full range of secondary or postsecondary education options, including apprenticeships registered under the act of August 16, 1937 (commonly known as the "national apprenticeship act"), 29 USC 50 et seq.

(iii) Includes counseling to support an individual in achieving the individual's education and career goals.

(iv) Includes, as appropriate, education offered concurrently with and in the same context as workforce preparation activities and training for a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

(v) Organizes education, training, and other services to meet the particular needs of an individual in a manner that accelerates the educational and career advancement of the individual to the extent practicable.

(vi) Enables an individual to attain a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, and at least 1 recognized postsecondary credential.

(vii) Helps an individual enter or advance within a specific occupation or occupational cluster.

(b) "Department" means the department of talent and economic development.

(c) "Eligible adult education provider" means a district, intermediate district, a consortium of districts, a consortium of intermediate districts, or a consortium of districts and intermediate districts that is identified as part of the local process described in subsection (5)(c) and approved by the department.

(d) "Participant" means the sum of the number of full-time equated individuals enrolled in and attending a department-approved adult education program under this section, using quarterly participant count days on the schedule described in section 6(7)(b).

Sec. 230. (1) Money included in the appropriations for community college operations under section 201(2) in fiscal year 2015-2016 for performance funding is distributed based on the following formula:

- (a) Allocated proportionate to fiscal year 2014-2015 base appropriations, 50%.
- (b) Based on contact hour equated students, 10%.
- (c) Based on administrative costs, 7.5%.
- (d) Based on a weighted degree formula as provided for in the 2006 recommendations of the performance indicators task force, 17.5%.
- (e) Based on the local strategic value component, as developed in cooperation with the Michigan Community College Association and described in subsection (2), 15%.

(2) Money included in the appropriations for community college operations under section 201(2) for local strategic value shall be allocated to each community college that certifies to the state budget director, through a board of trustees resolution on or before October 15, 2015, that the college has met 4 out of 5 best practices listed in each category described in subsection (3). The resolution shall provide specifics as to how the community college meets each best practice measure within each category. One-third of funding available under the strategic value component shall be allocated to each category described in subsection (3). Amounts distributed under local strategic value shall be on a proportionate basis to each college's fiscal year 2014-2015 operations funding. Payments to community colleges that qualify for local strategic value funding shall be distributed with the November installment payment described in section 206.

(3) For purposes of subsection (2), the following categories of best practices reflect functional activities of community colleges that have strategic value to the local communities and regional economies:

- (a) For Category A, economic development and business or industry partnerships, the following:
 - (i) The community college has active partnerships with local employers including hospitals and health care providers.
 - (ii) The community college provides customized on-site training for area companies, employees, or both.
 - (iii) The community college supports entrepreneurship through a small business assistance center or other training or consulting activities targeted toward small businesses.
 - (iv) The community college supports technological advancement through industry partnerships, incubation activities, or operation of a Michigan technical education center or other advanced technology center.
 - (v) The community college has active partnerships with local or regional workforce and economic development agencies.
- (b) For Category B, educational partnerships, the following:
 - (i) The community college has active partnerships with regional high schools, intermediate school districts, and career-tech centers to provide instruction through dual enrollment, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, middle college, or academy programs.
 - (ii) The community college hosts, sponsors, or participates in enrichment programs for area K-12 students, such as college days, summer or after-school programming, or science Olympiad.
 - (iii) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for traditional age students, including grant programs such as talent search, upward bound, or other activities to promote college readiness in area high schools and community centers.
 - (iv) The community college provides, supports, or participates in programming to promote successful transitions to college for new or reentering adult students, such as adult basic education, a high school equivalency test preparation program and testing, or recruiting, advising, or orientation activities specific to adults. As used in this subparagraph, "high school equivalency test preparation program" means that term as defined in section 4.
 - (v) The community college has active partnerships with regional 4-year colleges and universities to promote successful transfer, such as articulation, 2+2, or reverse transfer agreements or operation of a university center.
- (c) For Category C, community services, the following:
 - (i) The community college provides continuing education programming for leisure, wellness, personal enrichment, or professional development.
 - (ii) The community college operates or sponsors opportunities for community members to engage in activities that promote leisure, wellness, cultural or personal enrichment such as community sports teams, theater or musical ensembles, or artist guilds.
 - (iii) The community college operates public facilities to promote cultural, educational, or personal enrichment for community members, such as libraries, computer labs, performing arts centers, museums, art galleries, or television or radio stations.
 - (iv) The community college operates public facilities to promote leisure or wellness activities for community members, including gymnasiums, athletic fields, tennis courts, fitness centers, hiking or biking trails, or natural areas.

(v) The community college promotes, sponsors, or hosts community service activities for students, staff, or community members.

(4) Payments for performance funding under section 201(2) shall be made to a community college only if that community college actively participates in the Michigan transfer network sponsored by the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and submits timely updates, including updated course equivalencies at least every 6 months, to the Michigan transfer network. The state budget director shall determine if a community college has not satisfied this requirement. The state budget director may withhold payments for performance funding until a community college is in compliance with this section.

Sec. 256. (1) The funds appropriated in section 236 for the tuition incentive program shall be distributed as provided in this section and pursuant to the administrative procedures for the tuition incentive program of the department of treasury.

(2) As used in this section:

(a) "Phase I" means the first part of the tuition incentive assistance program defined as the academic period of 80 semester or 120 term credits, or less, leading to an associate degree or certificate.

(b) "Phase II" means the second part of the tuition incentive assistance program which provides assistance in the third and fourth year of 4-year degree programs.

(c) "Department" means the department of treasury.

(d) "High school equivalency certificate" means that term as defined in section 4.

(3) An individual shall meet the following basic criteria and financial thresholds to be eligible for tuition incentive benefits:

(a) To be eligible for phase I, an individual shall meet all of the following criteria:

(i) Apply for certification to the department any time after he or she begins the sixth grade but before August 31 of the school year in which he or she graduates from high school or before achieving a high school equivalency certificate.

(ii) Be less than 20 years of age at the time he or she graduates from high school with a diploma or certificate of completion or achieves a high school equivalency certificate.

(iii) Be a United States citizen and a resident of Michigan according to institutional criteria.

(iv) Be at least a half-time student, earning less than 80 semester or 120 term credits at a participating educational institution within 4 years of high school graduation or achievement of a high school equivalency certificate.

(v) Request information on filing a FAFSA.

(vi) Must meet the satisfactory academic progress policy of the educational institution he or she attends.

(b) To be eligible for phase II, an individual shall meet either of the following criteria in addition to the criteria in subdivision (a):

(i) Complete at least 56 transferable semester or 84 transferable term credits.

(ii) Obtain an associate degree or certificate at a participating institution.

(c) To be eligible for phase I or phase II, an individual must not be incarcerated and must be financially eligible as determined by the department. An individual is financially eligible for the tuition incentive program if he or she was eligible for Medicaid from the state of Michigan for 24 months within the 36 months before application. The department shall accept certification of Medicaid eligibility only from the department of health and human services for the purposes of verifying if a person is Medicaid eligible for 24 months within the 36 months before application. Certification of eligibility may begin in the sixth grade. As used in this subdivision, "incarcerated" does not include detention of a juvenile in a state-operated or privately operated juvenile detention facility.

(4) For phase I, the department shall provide payment on behalf of a person eligible under subsection (3). The department shall reject billings that are excessive or outside the guidelines for the type of educational institution.

(5) For phase I, all of the following apply:

(a) Payments for associate degree or certificate programs shall not be made for more than 80 semester or 120 term credits for any individual student at any participating institution.

(b) For persons enrolled at a Michigan community college, the department shall pay the current in-district tuition and mandatory fees. For persons residing in an area that is not included in any community college district, the out-of-district tuition rate may be authorized.

(c) For persons enrolled at a Michigan public university, the department shall pay lower division resident tuition and mandatory fees for the current year.

(d) For persons enrolled at a Michigan independent, nonprofit degree-granting college or university, or a Michigan federal tribally controlled community college, or Focus: HOPE, the department shall pay mandatory fees for the current year and a per-credit payment that does not exceed the average community college in-district per-credit tuition rate as reported on August 1, for the immediately preceding academic year.

(6) A person participating in phase II may be eligible for additional funds not to exceed \$500.00 per semester or \$400.00 per term up to a maximum of \$2,000.00 subject to the following conditions:

(a) Credits are earned in a 4-year program at a Michigan degree-granting 4-year college or university.

(b) The tuition reimbursement is for coursework completed within 30 months of completion of the phase I requirements.

(7) The department shall work closely with participating institutions to develop an application and eligibility determination process that will provide the highest level of participation and ensure that all requirements of the program are met.

(8) Applications for the tuition incentive program may be approved at any time after the student begins the sixth grade. If a determination of financial eligibility is made, that determination is valid as long as the student meets all other program requirements and conditions.

(9) Each institution shall ensure that all known available restricted grants for tuition and fees are used prior to billing the tuition incentive program for any portion of a student's tuition and fees.

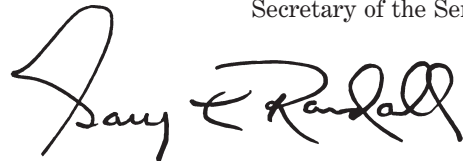
(10) The department shall ensure that the tuition incentive program is well publicized and that eligible Medicaid clients are provided information on the program. The department shall provide the necessary funding and staff to fully operate the program.

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days after the date it is enacted into law.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Secretary of the Senate



Clerk of the House of Representatives

Approved

.....
Governor