SECOND REGULAR SESSION
[TRULY AGREED TO AND FINALLY PASSED]
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 997
98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
2016

AN ACT
To repeal sections 103.003, 103.079, 167.223, 173.005, 173.234, and 178.780, RSMo,
and to enact in lieu thereof nineteen new sections relating to higher education,
with an emergency clause for certain sections, with existing penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 103.003, 103.079, 167.223, 173.005, 173.234, and
178.780, RSMo, are repealed and nineteen new sections enacted in lieu thereof,
to be known as sections 103.003, 103.079, 105.1445, 167.223, 173.005, 173.035,
173.234, 173.2500, 173.2505, 173.2510, 173.2515, 173.2520, 178.780, 178.785,
178.786, 178.787, 178.788, 178.789, and 1, to read as follows:

103.003. As used in sections 103.003 to 103.175, the following terms
mean:
(1) "Actuarial reserves", the necessary funding required to pay all the
medical expenses for services provided to members of the plan but for which the
claims have not yet been received by the claims administrator;
(2) "Actuary", a member of the American Academy of Actuaries or who is
an enrolled actuary under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974;
(3) "Agency", a state-sponsored institution of higher learning, political
subdivision or governmental entity or instrumentality;
(4) "Alternative delivery health care program", a plan of covered benefits
that pays medical expenses through an alternate mechanism rather than on a fee-
for-service basis. This includes, but is not limited to, health maintenance
organizations and preferred provider organizations, all of which shall include

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is
intended to be omitted in the law.
chiropractic physicians licensed under chapter 331, in the provider networks or organizations;
(5) "Board", the board of trustees of the Missouri consolidated health care plan;
(6) "Claims administrator", an agency contracted to process medical claims submitted from providers or members of the plan and their dependents;
(7) "Coordination of benefits", to work with another group-sponsored health care plan which also covers a member of the plan to ensure that both plans pay their appropriate amount of the health care expenses incurred by the member;
(8) "Covered benefits", a schedule of covered services, including chiropractic services, which are payable under the plan;
(9) "Employee", any person employed full time by the state or a participating member agency, or a person eligible for coverage by a state-sponsored retirement system or a retirement system sponsored by a participating member agency of the plan;
(10) "Evidence of good health", medical information supplied by a potential member of the plan that is reviewed to determine the financial risk the person represents to the plan and the corresponding determination of whether or not he or she should be accepted into the plan;
(11) "Health care plan", any group medical benefit plan providing coverage on an expense-incurred basis, any HMO, any group service or indemnity contract issued by a health plan of any type or description;
(12) "Medical benefits coverages" shall include services provided by chiropractic physicians as well as physicians licensed under chapter 334;
(13) "Medical expenses", costs for services performed by a provider and covered under the plan;
(14) "Missouri consolidated health care plan benefit fund account", the benefit trust fund account containing all payroll deductions, payments, and income from all sources for the plan;
(15) "Officer", an elected official of the state of Missouri;
(16) "Participating higher education entity", a state-sponsored institution of higher learning;
(17) "Participating member agency", a [state-sponsored institution of higher learning.] political subdivision or governmental entity that has elected to join the plan and has been accepted by the board;
"Plan year", a twelve-month period designated by the board which is used to calculate the annual rate categories and the appropriate coverage;

"Provider", a physician, hospital, pharmacist, psychologist, chiropractic physician or other licensed practitioner who or which provides health care services within the respective scope of practice of such practitioner pursuant to state law and regulation;

"Retiree", a person who is not an employee and is receiving or is entitled to receive an annuity benefit from a state-sponsored retirement system or a retirement system of a participating member agency of the plan or becomes eligible for retirement benefits because of service with a participating member agency.

103.079. 1. The health care programs sponsored by the departments of transportation and conservation shall become a part of this plan only upon request to and acceptance by the board of trustees by the highways and transportation commission or the conservation commission and any such transfer into this plan shall be deemed reviewable by such department every three years. Such department may withdraw from the plan upon approval by such department's commission and by providing the board a minimum of six months' notice prior to the end of the then current plan year and termination of coverage will become effective at the end of the then current plan year. For any of the foregoing state agencies choosing to participate, the plan shall not assume responsibility for any liabilities incurred by the agency or its eligible employees, retirees, or dependents prior to its effective date.

2. Any participating higher education entity may, by its own election, become part of this plan. The board of trustees shall accept the participating higher education entity. The board of trustees may request the participating higher education entity pay a first year adjustment if the population being brought into the plan is actuarially substantial and materially different than the current population in the state plan. Once a participating higher education entity comes into the plan, it may not leave the plan for a period of five years. Such participating higher education entity may withdraw from the plan upon approval by such participating higher education entity governing board and by providing the board a minimum of six month's notice prior to the end of the then current plan year and termination of
coverage will become effective at the end of the then current plan year. For any of the foregoing participating higher education entities choosing to participate, the plan shall not assume responsibility for any liabilities incurred by the participating higher education entity or its eligible employees, retirees, or dependents prior to its effective date.

105.1445. 1. On or before January 1, 2017, the department of higher education shall create guidance regarding notice of public employee eligibility for public service loan forgiveness. Public employers may use the guidance in providing notice to employees under subsection 2 of this section. The guidance shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

   (1) Up-to-date, accurate, and complete information regarding eligibility for participation in existing public service loan forgiveness programs;

   (2) Contact information and relevant forms for applying for existing public service loan forgiveness programs; and

   (3) Other relevant information as determined by the department of higher education.

   2. On or before April 1, 2017, the governing body of each public employer in this state shall adopt a policy that provides up-to-date, accurate, and complete information to each new employee regarding eligibility for public service loan forgiveness. Notice to new employees shall be provided within ten days following the start of employment with the public employer. On or before June 30, 2017, the public employer shall provide the same information to all current employees employed on that date.

167.223. 1. Public high schools may, in cooperation with Missouri public [community] two-year colleges and public or private four-year colleges and universities, offer postsecondary course options to high school students. A postsecondary course option allows eligible students to attend vocational or academic classes on a college or university campus and receive both high school and college credit upon successful completion of the course.

   2. For purposes of state aid, the pupil's resident district shall continue to count the pupil in the average daily attendance of such resident district for any time the student is attending a postsecondary course.

   3. Any pupil enrolled in a [community] two-year college under a postsecondary course option shall be considered a resident student for the
purposes of calculating state aid to the [community] two-year college.

4. [Community] Two-year colleges and four-year colleges and universities may charge reasonable fees for pupils enrolled in courses under a postsecondary course option. Such fees may be paid by the district of residence or by the pupil, as determined by the agreement between the district of residence and the college or university.

173.005. 1. There is hereby created a "Department of Higher Education", and the division of higher education of the department of education is abolished and all its powers, duties, functions, personnel and property are transferred as provided by the Reorganization Act of 1974, Appendix B, RSMo.

2. The commission on higher education is abolished and all its powers, duties, personnel and property are transferred by type I transfer to the "Coordinating Board for Higher Education", which is hereby created, and the coordinating board shall be the head of the department. The coordinating board shall consist of nine members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate, and not more than five of its members shall be of the same political party. None of the members shall be engaged professionally as an educator or educational administrator with a public or private institution of higher education at the time appointed or during his term. Moreover, no person shall be appointed to the coordinating board who shall not be a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have been a resident of the state of Missouri two years next prior to appointment, and at least one but not more than two persons shall be appointed to said board from each congressional district. The term of service of a member of the coordinating board shall be six years and said members, while attending the meetings of the board, shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, nothing in this section relating to a change in the composition and configuration of congressional districts in this state shall prohibit a member who is serving a term on August 28, 2011, from completing his or her term. The coordinating board may, in order to carry out the duties prescribed for it in subsections 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8 of this section, employ such professional, clerical and research personnel as may be necessary to assist it in performing those duties, but this staff shall not, in any fiscal year, exceed twenty-five full-time equivalent employees regardless of the source of funding. In addition to all other powers, duties and functions transferred to it, the coordinating board for higher education shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
31 (1) The coordinating board for higher education shall have approval of proposed new degree programs to be offered by the state institutions of higher education;

32 (2) The coordinating board for higher education may promote and encourage the development of cooperative agreements between Missouri public four-year institutions of higher education which do not offer graduate degrees and Missouri public four-year institutions of higher education which do offer graduate degrees for the purpose of offering graduate degree programs on campuses of those public four-year institutions of higher education which do not otherwise offer graduate degrees. Such agreements shall identify the obligations and duties of the parties, including assignment of administrative responsibility. Any diploma awarded for graduate degrees under such a cooperative agreement shall include the names of both institutions inscribed thereon. Any cooperative agreement in place as of August 28, 2003, shall require no further approval from the coordinating board for higher education. Any costs incurred with respect to the administrative provisions of this subdivision may be paid from state funds allocated to the institution assigned the administrative authority for the program. The provisions of this subdivision shall not be construed to invalidate the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection;

33 (3) In consultation with the heads of the institutions of higher education affected and against a background of carefully collected data on enrollment, physical facilities, manpower needs, institutional missions, the coordinating board for higher education shall establish guidelines for appropriation requests by those institutions of higher education; however, other provisions of the Reorganization Act of 1974 notwithstanding, all funds shall be appropriated by the general assembly to the governing board of each public four-year institution of higher education which shall prepare expenditure budgets for the institution;

34 (4) No new state-supported senior colleges or residence centers shall be established except as provided by law and with approval of the coordinating board for higher education;

35 (5) The coordinating board for higher education shall establish admission guidelines consistent with institutional missions;

36 (6) The coordinating board for higher education shall require all public two-year and four-year higher education institutions to replicate best practices in remediation identified by the coordinating board and institutions from research undertaken by regional educational laboratories, higher education research
organizations, and similar organizations with expertise in the subject, and
decide and reduce methods that have been found to be ineffective in preparing
or retaining students or that delay students from enrollment in college-level
courses;

(7) The coordinating board shall establish policies and procedures for
institutional decisions relating to the residence status of students;

(8) The coordinating board shall establish guidelines to promote and
facilitate the transfer of students between institutions of higher education within
the state and, with the assistance of the committee on transfer and articulation,
shall require all public two-year and four-year higher education institutions to
create by July 1, 2014, a statewide core transfer library of at least twenty-five
lower division courses across all institutions that are transferable among all
public higher education institutions. The coordinating board shall establish
policies and procedures to ensure such courses are accepted in transfer among
public institutions and treated as equivalent to similar courses at the receiving
institutions. The coordinating board shall develop a policy to foster reverse
transfer for any student who has accumulated enough hours in combination with
at least one public higher education institution in Missouri that offers an
associate degree and one public four-year higher education institution in the
prescribed courses sufficient to meet the public higher education institution's
requirements to be awarded an associate degree. The department of elementary
and secondary education shall maintain the alignment of the assessments found
in section 160.518 and successor assessments with the competencies previously
established under this subdivision for entry-level collegiate courses in English,
mathematics, foreign language, sciences, and social sciences associated with an
institution's general education core;

(9) The coordinating board shall collect the necessary information and
develop comparable data for all institutions of higher education in the state. The
coordinating board shall use this information to delineate the areas of competence
of each of these institutions and for any other purposes deemed appropriate by
the coordinating board;

(10) Compliance with requests from the coordinating board for
institutional information and the other powers, duties and responsibilities, herein
assigned to the coordinating board, shall be a prerequisite to the receipt of any
funds which the coordinating board is responsible for administering;

(11) If any institution of higher education in this state, public or private,
willfully fails or refuses to follow any lawful guideline, policy or procedure established or prescribed by the coordinating board, or knowingly deviates from any such guideline, or knowingly acts without coordinating board approval where such approval is required, or willfully fails to comply with any other lawful order of the coordinating board, the coordinating board may, after a public hearing, withhold or direct to be withheld from that institution any funds the disbursement of which is subject to the control of the coordinating board, or may remove the approval of the institution as an approved institution within the meaning of section 173.1102. If any such public institution willfully disregards board policy, the commissioner of higher education may order such institution to remit a fine in an amount not to exceed one percent of the institution's current fiscal year state operating appropriation to the board. The board shall hold such funds until such time that the institution, as determined by the commissioner of higher education, corrects the violation, at which time the board shall refund such amount to the institution. If the commissioner determines that the institution has not redressed the violation within one year, the fine amount shall be deposited into the general revenue fund, unless the institution appeals such decision to the full coordinating board, which shall have the authority to make a binding and final decision, by means of a majority vote, regarding the matter. However, nothing in this section shall prevent any institution of higher education in this state from presenting additional budget requests or from explaining or further clarifying its budget requests to the governor or the general assembly; [and]

(12) In recognition of institutions that meet the requirements of subdivisions (2), (3), or (4) of subsection 1 of section 173.616, are established by name as an educational institution in Missouri, and are authorized to operate programs beyond secondary education for purposes of authorization under 34 C.F.R. 600.9, the coordinating board for higher education shall maintain and publish on its website a list of such postsecondary educational institutions; and

(13) (a) As used in this subdivision, the term "out-of-state public institution of higher education" shall mean an education institution located outside of Missouri that:

a. Is controlled or administered directly by a public agency or political subdivision or is classified as a public institution by the state;

b. Receives appropriations for operating expenses directly or indirectly
from a state other than Missouri;

c. Provides a postsecondary course of instruction at least six months in length leading to or directly creditable toward a degree or certificate;

d. Meets the standards for accreditation by an accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education or any successor agency; and

e. Permits faculty members to select textbooks without influence or pressure by any religious or sectarian source.

(b) No later than July 1, 2008, the coordinating board shall promulgate rules regarding:

a. The board's approval process of proposed new degree programs and course offerings by any out-of-state public institution of higher education seeking to offer degree programs or course work within the state of Missouri; and

b. The board's approval process of degree programs and courses offered by any out-of-state public institutions of higher education that, prior to July 1, 2008, were approved by the board to operate a school in compliance with the provisions of sections 173.600 to 173.618. The rules shall ensure that, as of July 1, 2008, all out-of-state public institutions seeking to offer degrees and courses within the state of Missouri are evaluated in a manner similar to Missouri public higher education institutions. Such out-of-state public institutions shall be held to standards no lower than the standards established by the coordinating board for program approval and the policy guidelines of the coordinating board for data collection, cooperation, and resolution of disputes between Missouri institutions of higher education under this section. Any such out-of-state public institutions of higher education wishing to continue operating within this state must be approved by the board under the rules promulgated under this subdivision. The coordinating board may charge and collect fees from out-of-state public institutions to cover the costs of reviewing and assuring the quality of programs offered by out-of-state public institutions. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly under chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2007, shall be invalid and void.
(c) Nothing in this subdivision or in section 173.616 shall be construed or interpreted so that students attending an out-of-state public institution are considered to be attending a Missouri public institution of higher education for purposes of obtaining student financial assistance.

3. The coordinating board shall meet at least four times annually with an advisory committee who shall be notified in advance of such meetings. The coordinating board shall have exclusive voting privileges. The advisory committee shall consist of thirty-two members, who shall be the president or other chief administrative officer of the University of Missouri; the chancellor of each campus of the University of Missouri; the president of each state-supported four-year college or university, including Harris-Stowe State University, Missouri Southern State University, Missouri Western State University, and Lincoln University; the president of State Technical College of Missouri; the president or chancellor of each public community college district; and representatives of each of five accredited private institutions selected biennially, under the supervision of the coordinating board, by the presidents of all of the state's privately supported institutions; but always to include at least one representative from one privately supported community college, one privately supported four-year college, and one privately supported university. The conferences shall enable the committee to advise the coordinating board of the views of the institutions on matters within the purview of the coordinating board.

4. The University of Missouri, Lincoln University, and all other state-governed colleges and universities, chapters 172, 174, 175, and others, are transferred by type III transfers to the department of higher education subject to the provisions of subsection 2 of this section.

5. The state historical society, chapter 183, is transferred by type III transfer to the University of Missouri.

6. The state anatomical board, chapter 194, is transferred by type II transfer to the department of higher education.

7. All the powers, duties and functions vested in the division of public schools and state board of education relating to community college state aid and the supervision, formation of districts and all matters otherwise related to the state's relations with community college districts and matters pertaining to community colleges in public school districts, chapters 163, 178, and others, are transferred to the coordinating board for higher education by type I transfer. Provided, however, that all responsibility for administering the federal-
state programs of vocational-technical education, except for the 1202a
postsecondary educational amendments of 1972 program, shall remain with the
department of elementary and secondary education. The department of
elementary and secondary education and the coordinating board for higher
education shall cooperate in developing the various plans for vocational-technical
education; however, the ultimate responsibility will remain with the state board
of education.

8. All the powers, duties, functions, and properties of the state poultry
experiment station, chapter 262, are transferred by type I transfer to the
University of Missouri, and the state poultry association and state poultry board
are abolished. In the event the University of Missouri shall cease to use the real
estate of the poultry experiment station for the purposes of research or shall
declare the same surplus, all real estate shall revert to the governor of the state
of Missouri and shall not be disposed of without legislative approval.

173.035. 1. The department of higher education shall develop,
maintain, and operate a website containing information of public and
private institutions of higher education in this state directing students
to resources including, but not limited to, academic programs, financial
aid, and how academic course credit may be transferred from one
institute of higher education to another. The information on the
website shall be made available to the public and shall be accessible
from various devices including, but not limited to, computers, tablets,
and other electronic communication devices.

2. Inclusion of institution information on the website is
voluntary, and institutions of higher education may elect to have
institutional information included on the website by notifying the
department of higher education.

3. The department of higher education may promulgate all
necessary rules and regulations for the administration of this
section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section
536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section
shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of
the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This
section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of the powers
vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to
delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are
subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

173.234. 1. As used in this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the following terms mean:

(1) "Board", the coordinating board for higher education;

(2) "Books", any books required for any course for which tuition was paid by a grant awarded under this section;

(3) "Eligible student", the natural, adopted, or stepchild of a qualifying military member, who is less than twenty-five years of age and who was a dependent of a qualifying military member at the time of death or injury or within five years subsequent to the injury, or the spouse of a qualifying military member which was the spouse of a veteran at the time of death or injury or within five years subsequent to the injury;

(4) "Grant", the veteran's survivors grant as established in this section;

(5) "Institution of postsecondary education", any approved Missouri public institution of postsecondary education, as defined in subdivision (3) of section 173.1102;

(6) "Qualifying military member", any member of the military of the United States, whether active duty, reserve, or National Guard, who served in the military after September 11, 2001, during time of war and for whom the following criteria apply:

   (a) A veteran was a Missouri resident when first entering the military service or at the time of death or injury;

   (b) A veteran died or was injured as a result of combat action or a veteran's death or injury was certified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs medical authority to be attributable to an illness or accident that occurred while serving in combat, or became eighty percent disabled as a result of injuries or accidents sustained in combat action after September 11, 2001; and

   (c) "Combat veteran", a Missouri resident who is discharged for active duty service having served since September 11, 2001, and received a DD214 in a geographic area entitled to receive combat pay tax exclusion exemption, hazardous duty pay, or imminent danger pay, or hostile fire pay;

(7) "Survivor", an eligible student of a qualifying military member;

(8) "Tuition", any tuition or incidental fee, or both, charged by an institution of postsecondary education for attendance at the institution by a
student as a resident of this state. The tuition grant shall not exceed the amount of tuition charged a Missouri resident at the University of Missouri-Columbia for attendance.

2. Within the limits of the amounts appropriated therefor, the coordinating board for higher education shall award annually up to twenty-five grants to survivors of qualifying military members to attend institutions of postsecondary education in this state, which shall continue to be awarded annually to eligible recipients as long as the recipient achieves and maintains a cumulative grade point average of at least two and one-half on a four-point scale, or its equivalent. If the waiting list of eligible survivors exceeds fifty, the coordinating board may petition the general assembly to expand the quota. If the quota is not expanded, then the eligibility of survivors on the waiting list shall be extended.

3. A survivor may receive a grant under this section only so long as the survivor is enrolled in a program leading to a certificate, or an associate or baccalaureate degree. In no event shall a survivor receive a grant beyond the completion of the first baccalaureate degree, regardless of age.

4. The coordinating board for higher education shall:
   (1) Promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this section; and
   (2) Provide the forms and determine the procedures necessary for a survivor to apply for and receive a grant under this section.

5. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2008, shall be invalid and void.

6. In order to be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a survivor shall be certified as eligible by the Missouri veterans’ commission.

7. A survivor who is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment as an undergraduate postsecondary student at an approved institution of postsecondary education, and who is selected to receive a grant under this section, shall receive the following:
(1) An amount not to exceed the actual tuition charged at the approved institution of postsecondary education where the survivor is enrolled or accepted for enrollment;

(2) An allowance of up to two thousand dollars per semester for room and board; and

(3) The actual cost of books, up to a maximum of five hundred dollars per semester.

8. A survivor who is a recipient of a grant may transfer from one approved public institution of postsecondary education to another without losing his or her entitlement under this section. The board shall make necessary adjustments in the amount of the grant. If a grant recipient at any time withdraws from the institution of postsecondary education so that under the rules and regulations of that institution he or she is entitled to a refund of any tuition, fees, room and board, books, or other charges, the institution shall pay the portion of the refund to which he or she is entitled attributable to the grant for that semester or similar grading period to the board.

9. If a survivor is granted financial assistance under any other student aid program, public or private, the full amount of such aid shall be reported to the board by the institution and the eligible survivor.

10. Nothing in this section shall be construed as a promise or guarantee that a person will be admitted to an institution of postsecondary education or to a particular institution of postsecondary education, will be allowed to continue to attend an institution of postsecondary education after having been admitted, or will be graduated from an institution of postsecondary education.

11. The benefits conferred by this section shall be available to any academically eligible student of a qualifying military member. Surviving children who are eligible shall be permitted to apply for full benefits conferred by this section until they reach twenty-five years of age.

12. Pursuant to section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

(1) The provisions of the new program authorized under this section shall [sunset automatically six years after August 28, 2008] be reauthorized as of the effective date of this act and shall expire on August 28, 2020, unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly; and

(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under this section shall sunset automatically twelve years after the effective date of the reauthorization of this section; and
This section shall terminate on September first of the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized under this section is sunset.

173.2500. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Approved dual credit provider", a board approved, accredited Missouri higher education institution that provides dual credit courses;

(2) "Board", coordinating board for higher education;

(3) "Department", department of higher education;

(4) "Dual credit courses", college level coursework delivered by a postsecondary education institution and taught in the high school by instructors with appropriate academic credentials to high school students who are earning high school and college credit simultaneously.

2. Each institution of higher education desiring to become or remain an approved dual credit provider in this state shall annually make written application to the board on forms furnished by the board. Such application shall include at a minimum the identification of all locations where the institution will offer dual credit courses, the courses the institution plans to offer, and the fee the institution will charge students per credit hour.

3. The department shall review the application and may conduct an investigation of the applicant to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations promulgated under this section. A dual credit course may not be advertised or represented as being delivered by an approved dual credit provider in the absence of approval of the application by the board.

4. The department shall maintain a listing of all approved dual credit providers and shall make that listing publicly available, including through appropriate electronic media.

5. The board may promulgate administrative rules to implement this section, including parameters for the approval of dual credit providers and establishing appropriate fees as needed to generate funding sufficient to cover the entirety of costs associated with operation of the dual credit provider certification process established in this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
section 536.010 that is created under the authority delegated in this
section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to
all of the provisions of chapter 536, and, if applicable, section
536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of
the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536,
to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule
are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking
authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2016, shall
be invalid and void.

6. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Dual
Credit Certification Fund", which shall consist of money collected
under this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund.
In accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may
approve disbursements. The fund shall be a dedicated fund and money
in the fund shall be used solely by the department for the purpose of
funding the costs associated with the operation of the dual credit
certification process authorized by this section.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the
contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium
shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

(3) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the
same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys
earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

173.2505. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the
"Dual Credit Scholarship Act".

2. To be eligible to receive the dual credit scholarship, a student
shall:

(1) Be a United States citizen or permanent resident;

(2) Be a Missouri resident as defined by the coordinating board
for higher education pursuant to section 173.005;

(3) Be enrolled in a dual credit program offered by an approved
dual credit provider, as defined in section 173.2500;

(4) Have a cumulative high school grade point average of at least
two and a half on a four point scale or equivalent; and

(5) Meet one or more of the following indicators of economic
need:

(a) Be individually eligible to be enrolled in a federal free or
reduced-price lunch program, based on income levels established by the
United States Department of Agriculture;
(b) Reside in a foster home, be a ward of the state, or be
homeless; or
(c) Receive low-income public assistance, such as the
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Special
Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children
(WIC), or live in federally subsidized public housing.

3. The dual credit scholarship is hereby created to provide
financial assistance to high school students enrolling in dual credit
courses offered by an approved dual credit provider as defined in
section 173.2500. The coordinating board may promulgate rules for the
administration of the program including establishing the application,
eligibility, and payment procedures. Any rule or portion of a rule, as
that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under the
authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and,
if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are
nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
pursuant to chapter 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to
disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
adopted after August 28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

4. Subject to appropriation, the dual credit scholarship shall
reimburse eligible students for up to fifty percent of the tuition cost
paid by the student to enroll in a dual credit course offered by an
approved dual credit provider.

5. No student shall receive in excess of five hundred dollars
annually for all dual credit courses taken by such student.

6. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Dual Credit
Scholarship Fund", which shall consist of moneys appropriated to the
fund by the General Assembly and private donations made to the
fund. The state treasurer shall be the custodian of the fund and shall
invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are
invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be
credited to the fund. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080
to the contrary, any moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the
biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund.

173.2510. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "15 to Finish Act".

2. The coordinating board for higher education, in cooperation with public institutions of higher education in this state, shall develop policies that promote the on-time completion of degree programs by students. The policies shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Defining on-time completion for specific levels of postsecondary credentials;

(2) Providing financial incentives to students during their senior year of undergraduate study who are on pace to graduate in no more than eight semesters; and

(3) Reducing, when feasible and permitted by accreditation or occupational licensure, the number of credit hours required to earn a degree.

3. By December 1, 2017, the department of higher education shall provide a report to the governor and the general assembly describing the actions taken to implement these provisions.

173.2515. 1. This section shall be known and may be cited as the "Guided Pathways to Success Act".

2. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Degree maps", a list of all course sequences available to fulfill the requirements for a specific degree program;

(2) "Meta-majors", a collection of academic programs that have common or related courses;

(3) "Proactive advising", an advising model in which advisors reach out to students in anticipation of their needs, connect students with resources and support early in their studies, and motivate students to succeed;

(4) "Structured schedule", a specific sequence of required and elective courses each semester that, when taken as prescribed, represent a direct path to complete a chosen program of study.

3. The coordinating board for higher education, in cooperation with the state's colleges and universities, shall develop a guided pathways to success pilot program. Guided pathways to success shall include at least two of the following components:

(1) Majors organized into semester-by-semester sets of courses
that lead to on-time completion, which shall have the same meaning as
described pursuant to section 173.2510;

(2) Degree-based transfer pathways between participating
institutions to assist students who enroll in multiple institutions to
complete their degree;

(3) Available meta-majors to minimize the loss of credit due to
changes by students in their degree majors;

(4) Student commitment to a structured schedule of courses and
electives; and

(5) Clear degree maps, proactive advising and guarantees that
required courses are available when needed by students.

4. The department shall develop and publicly maintain materials
that describe the elements of Missouri's guided pathways to success
project and assist students in understanding the operation of each
component.

5. By January 1, 2020, the coordinating board shall report to the
governor and the general assembly on the outcomes of the pilot
program created in this section.

6. Based on the outcomes of the pilot program created in this
section, the coordinating board may request funding to provide
competitive grants to institutions of higher education to assist in
defraying the costs incurred to implement guided pathways to success
on a statewide basis.

7. The coordinating board for higher education shall establish by
administrative rule criteria and procedures for the application for, and
awarding of, grants authorized by this section. Any rule or portion of
a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010 that is created under
the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536, and,
if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are
nonseverable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly
pursuant to chapter 536, to review, to delay the effective date, or to
disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
adopted after August 28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

173.2520. 1. As used in this section, the term "concurrent
postsecondary enrollment" shall mean coordinated enrollment in
coursework at both a four-year and a two-year postsecondary institution at the same time and for which the coursework is officially recorded by both institutions.

2. The coordinating board for higher education shall establish a concurrent enrollment pilot program for the purpose of providing students with a broader range of academic and student support services while streamlining the path to degree completion. The pilot project will be implemented in one or more public four-year institutions and one or more public two-year institutions. The pilot program is intended to determine the feasibility of extending a concurrent enrollment option to other institutions in the state.

3. By January 1, 2020, the coordinating board shall provide a report to the governor and the general assembly on the outcomes of the pilot program and provide a recommendation regarding the expansion of the program statewide.

178.780. 1. Tax supported community colleges formed prior to October 13, 1961, and those formed under the provisions of sections 178.770 to 178.890 shall be under the supervision of the coordinating board for higher education.

2. The coordinating board for higher education shall:

(1) Establish the role of the two-year college in the state;

(2) Set up a survey form to be used for local surveys of need and potential for two-year colleges; provide supervision in the conducting of surveys; require that the results of the studies be used in reviewing applications for approval; and establish and use the survey results to set up priorities;

(3) Require that the initiative to establish two-year colleges come from the area to be served;

(4) Administer the state financial support program;

(5) Supervise the community college districts formed under the provisions of sections 178.770 to 178.890 and the community colleges now in existence and formed prior to October 13, 1961;

(6) Formulate and put into effect uniform policies as to budgeting, record keeping, and student accounting;

(7) Establish uniform minimum entrance requirements and uniform curricular offerings for all community colleges;

(8) Make a continuing study of community college education in the state;
(9) Be responsible for the accreditation of each community college under its supervision. Accreditation shall be conducted annually or as often as deemed advisable and made in a manner consistent with rules and regulations established and applied uniformly to all community colleges in the state. Standards for accreditation of community colleges shall be formulated with due consideration given to curriculum offerings and entrance requirements of the University of Missouri; and

(10) Establish a standard core curriculum and a common course numbering equivalency matrix for lower-division courses to be used at community colleges and other public institutions of higher education to facilitate student transfers as provided under sections 178.785 to 178.789.

178.785. The provisions of sections 178.785 to 178.789 shall be known and may be cited as the "Higher Education Core Curriculum Transfer Act". For purposes of sections 178.785 to 178.789, the following terms mean:

(1) "Coordinating board", the coordinating board for higher education established in section 173.005;

(2) "Core curriculum", the basic competencies to be met, which shall include communicating, higher-order thinking, managing information, valuing, and includes the knowledge areas of social and behavioral sciences, humanities and fine arts, mathematics, and life and physical sciences;

(3) "Faculty member", a person who is employed full-time by a community college or other public institution of higher education as a member of the faculty whose primary duties include teaching, research, academic service, or administration;

(4) "Native student", a student whose initial college enrollment was at an institution of higher education and who has not transferred to any other institution since that initial enrollment and who has completed no more than eleven credit hours at any other institution of higher education.

178.786. 1. The coordinating board for higher education, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives from each public community college in this state and each public four-year institution of higher education, shall develop a recommended lower division core curriculum of forty-two semester credit hours,
including a statement of the content, component areas, and objectives of the core curriculum. A majority of the members of the advisory committee shall be faculty members from Missouri public institutions of higher education.

2. The coordinating board shall approve a common course numbering equivalency matrix for the forty-two credit hour block at all institutions of higher education in the state to facilitate the transfer of those courses among institutions of higher education by promoting consistency in course designation and course identification. Each community college and four-year institution of higher education shall include in its course listings the applicable course numbers from the common course numbering equivalency matrix approved by the coordinating board under this subsection.

3. The coordinating board shall complete the requirements of subsections 1 and 2 of this section prior to January 1, 2018, for implementation of the core curriculum transfer recommendations for the 2018-19 academic year for all public institutions of higher education.

178.787. 1. Each community college, as defined in section 163.191, and public four-year institution of higher education shall adopt the forty-two credit hour block, including specific courses comprising the curriculum, based on the core curriculum recommendations made by the coordinating board for higher education under subsections 1 and 2 of section 178.786, for implementation beginning in the 2018-19 academic year.

2. If a student successfully completes the forty-two credit core curriculum at a community college or other public institution of higher education, that block of courses may be transferred to any other public institution of higher education in this state and shall be substituted for the receiving institution's core curriculum. A student shall receive academic credit for each of the courses transferred and shall not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution.

3. A student who transfers from one public institution of higher education to another public institution of higher education in the state without completing the core curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit from the receiving institution for each of the
courses that the student has successfully completed in the core curriculum of the sending institution. Following receipt of credit for these courses, the student may be required to satisfy further course requirements in the core curriculum of the receiving institution.

178.788. 1. The coordinating board for higher education, in consultation with the advisory board established in section 178.786, shall develop criteria to evaluate the transfer practices of each public institution of higher education in this state and shall evaluate the transfer practices of each institution based on this criteria.

2. The coordinating board shall develop procedures to be followed by institutions of higher education in resolving disputes concerning the transfer of course credit and by the commissioner of higher education in making a final determination concerning transfer of course credit if a transfer is in dispute.

3. Each institution of higher education shall publish in its course catalogs and on its official website the procedures adopted by the board under subsections 1 and 2 of this section.

4. If an institution of higher education does not accept course credit earned by a student at another public institution of higher education, that institution shall give written notice to the student and the other institution that the transfer of the course credit is denied. The two institutions and the student shall attempt to resolve the transfer of the course credit in accordance with rules promulgated by the coordinating board. If the transfer dispute is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student or the institution at which the credit was earned within forty-five days after the date the student received written notice of the denial, the institution that denies the transfer of the course credit shall notify the commissioner of higher education of its denial and the reasons for the denial.

5. The commissioner of higher education or his or her designee shall make the final determination about a dispute concerning the transfer of course credit and give written notice of the determination as to the involved student and institutions.

6. The coordinating board shall collect data on the types of transfer disputes that are reported and the disposition of each case that is considered by the commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's designee.
7. The provisions of sections 178.785 to 178.789 shall not apply to
native students who are not seeking to transfer credits nor affect the
authority of an institution of higher education to adopt its own
admission standards or its own grading policies.

8. Students enrolled in professional programs shall complete the
appropriate core curriculum that is required for accreditation or
licensure.

178.789. The coordinating board for higher education may
promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for the administration
of sections 178.785 to 178.789. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that
term is defined in section 536.010, that is created under the authority
delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with
and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if
any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter
536 to review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a
rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of
rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August
28, 2016, shall be invalid and void.

Section 1. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
contrary, if the spouse of any full-time employee of a public institution
of higher education incurs out-of-state travel costs that are paid for or
reimbursed by such institution then such employee shall be required
to file a quarterly travel report with the Missouri ethics commission
listing the date or dates, location, purpose, and the full cost of any out-
of-state travel made by such employee's spouse. Such costs shall
include, but not be limited to, any transportation costs, lodging costs,
and meal expenses that are paid for or reimbursed by the public
institution. The commission shall publish travel reports in an
electronic format on the commission's website and shall enable the
reports to be easily searched by name, employee position, and
institutional affiliation. The commission shall enable the electronic
filing of reports.

2. In addition to the quarterly reports required under subsection
1 of this section, any spouse of a full-time employee of a public
institution of higher education whose travels were funded by such
public institution under the provisions of subsection 1 of this section
during the one-year period immediately before the effective date of this section shall, no later than six months after the effective date of this section, file an additional travel report with the commission covering travel expenditures during that one-year period. This travel report shall be identical in content to the quarterly travel reports required under subsection 1 of this section.

Section B. Because of the importance of providing educational assistance to members of the military and their families and because of the importance of improving and sustaining the access to federal financial aid for higher education students in Missouri, the repeal and reenactment of sections 173.234 and 173.005 of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and the repeal and reenactment of sections 173.234 and 173.005 of this act shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.