

SENATE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 69  
AN ACT

To repeal sections 178.786 and 178.787, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to higher education core curricula.

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

Section A. Sections 178.786 and 178.787, RSMo, are  
2 repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be  
3 known as sections 178.786 and 178.787, to read as follows:

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

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

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

27           4. (1) The coordinating board, with the assistance of  
28 an advisory committee composed of an equal number of  
29 representatives from each public community college in this  
30 state and each public four-year institution of higher  
31 education in this state, shall approve a sixty-credit-hour,  
32 transferable, lower-division course curriculum and a common  
33 course numbering equivalency matrix for the following degree  
34 programs:

35           (a) General business;

36           (b) Elementary education and teaching;

37           (c) General psychology;

38           (d) Registered nursing; and

39           (e) General biology or biological science, or both.

40           (2) Such sixty-credit-hour, transferable, lower-  
41 division course curriculum shall facilitate the transfer of  
42 courses that are part of such curriculum among public  
43 institutions of higher education in this state by promoting  
44 consistency in course designation and course identification.

45           (3) Each public community college and public four-year  
46 institution of higher education in this state offering the  
47 degree programs described in subdivision (1) of this  
48 subsection shall include in its programs of study the common  
49 course numbering equivalency matrix approved by the  
50 coordinating board under this subsection.

51           5. The coordinating board shall complete the  
52 requirements of subsection 4 of this section before June 30,  
53 2027, for implementation of the sixty-credit-hour,  
54 transferable, lower-division course curriculum for the

55 degree programs described in subdivision (1) of subsection 4  
56 of this section for the 2028-29 academic year for all public  
57 institutions of higher education in this state.

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

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

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

4. Each community college in this state, as defined in  
28 section 163.191, and public four-year institution of higher  
29 education in this state shall adopt the sixty-credit-hour,  
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transferable, lower-division course curriculum and common course numbering equivalency matrix for the degree programs described in subdivision (1) of subsection 4 of section 178.786, including specific courses constituting the curriculum, based on the core curriculum recommendations made by the coordinating board for higher education under subsection 4 of section 178.786, for implementation beginning in the 2028-29 academic year. No institution of higher education in this state shall be required to adopt the sixty-credit-hour, transferable, lower-division course curriculum for degree programs not offered at the institution.

5. If a student successfully completes the sixty-credit-hour, transferable, lower-division courses at a community college or other public institution of higher education in this state, such 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 for the same degree program. A student shall receive academic credit toward the student's degree for each of the courses transferred and shall not be required to take additional core curriculum courses at the receiving institution for the same degree program.

6. A student who transfers from one public institution of higher education in this state to another public institution of higher education in this state without completing the sixty-credit-hour, transferable, lower-division course curriculum of the sending institution shall receive academic credit toward the same degree program from the receiving institution for each of the courses that the student has successfully completed in the sixty-credit-hour, transferable, lower-division course curriculum of the

64 sending institution. Following receipt of credit for such  
65 courses, the student may be required to satisfy further  
66 course requirements in the sixty-credit-hour, transferable,  
67 lower-division course curriculum of the receiving  
68 institution.

69 7. The coordinating board shall report to the house  
70 higher education committee and the senate education  
71 committee on progress related to the requirements of  
72 subsections 4 and 5 of section 178.786 and subsections 4, 5,  
73 and 6 of this section before December 31, 2026.