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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 260

01/23/2025

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Education Policy

- 1.1A bill for an act
- 1.2relating to education; modifying required mathematics academic standards and
- 1.3credit requirements; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, sections 120B.021,
- 1.4subdivision 1; 120B.024.
- 1.5BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.6Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 120B.021, subdivision 1, is amended to read:
- 1.7Subdivision 1. **Required academic standards.** (a) The following subject areas are
- 1.8required for statewide accountability:
- 1.9(1) language arts;
- 1.10(2) mathematics, ~~encompassing~~ including elements of algebra II, integrated mathematics
- 1.11~~III, or an equivalent in high school, and to be prepared for the three credits of mathematics~~
- 1.12~~in grades 9 through 12, the grade 8 standards include completion of algebra, geometry, and~~
- 1.13statistics;
- 1.14(3) science, including earth and space science, life science, and the physical sciences,
- 1.15including chemistry and physics;
- 1.16(4) social studies, including history, geography, economics, and government and
- 1.17citizenship that includes civics;
- 1.18(5) physical education;
- 1.19(6) health; and
- 1.20(7) the arts. Public elementary and middle schools must offer at least three and require
- 1.21at least two of the following five arts areas: dance; media arts; music; theater; and visual

2.1 arts. Public high schools must offer at least three and require at least one of the following
2.2 five arts areas: media arts; dance; music; theater; and visual arts.

2.3 (b) For purposes of applicable federal law, the academic standards for language arts,
2.4 mathematics, and science apply to all public school students, except the very few students
2.5 with extreme cognitive or physical impairments for whom an individualized education
2.6 program team has determined that the required academic standards are inappropriate. An
2.7 individualized education program team that makes this determination must establish
2.8 alternative standards.

2.9 (c) A school district may include child sexual abuse prevention instruction in a health
2.10 curriculum, consistent with paragraph (a), clause (6). Child sexual abuse prevention
2.11 instruction may include age-appropriate instruction on recognizing sexual abuse and assault,
2.12 boundary violations, and ways offenders groom or desensitize victims, as well as strategies
2.13 to promote disclosure, reduce self-blame, and mobilize bystanders. A school district may
2.14 provide instruction under this paragraph in a variety of ways, including at an annual assembly
2.15 or classroom presentation. A school district may also provide parents information on the
2.16 warning signs of child sexual abuse and available resources.

2.17 (d) District efforts to develop, implement, or improve instruction or curriculum as a
2.18 result of the provisions of this section must be consistent with sections 120B.10, 120B.11,
2.19 and 120B.20.

2.20 (e) Locally developed academic standards in health apply until statewide rules
2.21 implementing statewide health standards under subdivision 3 are required to be implemented
2.22 in the classroom.

2.23 Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 120B.024, is amended to read:

2.24 **120B.024 CREDITS.**

2.25 Subdivision 1. **Graduation requirements.** (a) Students must successfully complete the
2.26 following high school level credits for graduation:

2.27 (1) four credits of language arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in
2.28 English language arts;

2.29 (2) three credits of mathematics sufficient to satisfy ~~all of~~ the academic standards in
2.30 mathematics as determined by the local school district;

2.31 (3) three credits of science, including one credit to satisfy all the earth and space science
2.32 standards for grades 9 through 12, one credit to satisfy all the life science standards for

3.1 grades 9 through 12, and one credit to satisfy all the chemistry or physics standards for
3.2 grades 9 through 12;

3.3 (4) three and one-half credits of social studies, including credit for a course in government
3.4 and citizenship in either grade 11 or 12 for students beginning grade 9 in the 2025-2026
3.5 school year and later or an advanced placement, international baccalaureate, or other rigorous
3.6 course on government and citizenship under section 120B.021, subdivision 1a, and a
3.7 combination of other credits encompassing at least United States history, geography,
3.8 government and citizenship, world history, and economics sufficient to satisfy all of the
3.9 academic standards in social studies;

3.10 (5) one credit of the arts sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in the arts;

3.11 (6) credit sufficient to satisfy the state standards in physical education;

3.12 (7) credits sufficient to satisfy the state standards in health upon adoption of statewide
3.13 rules for implementing health standards under section 120B.021; and

3.14 (8) a minimum of seven elective credits.

3.15 (b) Students who begin grade 9 in the 2024-2025 school year and later must successfully
3.16 complete a course for credit in personal finance in grade 10, 11, or 12. A teacher of a personal
3.17 finance course that satisfies the graduation requirement must have a field license or
3.18 out-of-field permission in agricultural education, business, family and consumer science,
3.19 social studies, or math.

3.20 Subd. 2. **Credit equivalencies.** (a) A one-half credit of economics taught in a school's
3.21 agricultural, food, and natural resources education or business education program or
3.22 department may fulfill a one-half credit in social studies under subdivision 1, clause ~~(5)~~ (4),
3.23 if the credit is sufficient to satisfy all of the academic standards in economics.

3.24 (b) An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may fulfill the elective
3.25 science credit required under subdivision 1, clause ~~(4)~~ (3), if the credit meets the state
3.26 physical science, life science, earth and space science, chemistry, or physics academic
3.27 standards or a combination of these academic standards as approved by the district. An
3.28 agriculture or career and technical education credit may fulfill the credit in chemistry or
3.29 physics required under subdivision 1, clause ~~(4)~~ (3), if the credit meets the state chemistry
3.30 or physics academic standards as approved by the district. A student must satisfy either all
3.31 of the chemistry academic standards or all of the physics academic standards prior to
3.32 graduation. An agriculture science or career and technical education credit may not fulfill
3.33 the required biology credit under subdivision 1, clause ~~(4)~~ (3).

4.1 (c) A career and technical education credit may fulfill a mathematics or arts credit
4.2 requirement under subdivision 1, clause (2) or ~~(6)~~ (5).

4.3 (d) An agricultural, food, and natural resources education teacher is not required to meet
4.4 the requirements of Minnesota Rules, part 3505.1150, subpart 2, item B, to meet the credit
4.5 equivalency requirements of paragraph (b) above.

4.6 (e) A computer science credit may fulfill a mathematics credit requirement under
4.7 subdivision 1, clause (2), if the credit meets state academic standards in mathematics.

4.8 (f) A Project Lead the Way credit may fulfill a science or mathematics credit requirement
4.9 under subdivision 1, clause (2) or ~~(4)~~ (3), if the credit meets the state academic standards
4.10 in science or mathematics.

4.11 (g) An ethnic studies course may fulfill a social studies, language arts, arts, math, or
4.12 science credit if the course meets the applicable state academic standards. An ethnic studies
4.13 course may fulfill an elective credit if the course meets applicable local standards or other
4.14 requirements.

4.15 (h) A personal finance credit taught by a teacher with a field license or out-of-field
4.16 permission in math may fulfill a mathematics credit requirement under subdivision 1, clause
4.17 (2).