

Senate Education Committee

Ryan Meleedy 271-4151

HB 193, relative to the maximum number of credits per course eligible for the dual and concurrent enrollment program.

Hearing Date: March 25, 2025

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Ward, Sullivan, Abbas, Prentiss and Altschiller

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill specifies that courses funded by the state under the dual and concurrent enrollment program shall not exceed 4 credits each.

Sponsors:

Rep. Ladd
Rep. Cornell

Rep. Cordelli
Sen. Lang

Rep. Luneau

Who supports the bill: Shannon Reid (Director of Government Affairs for the Community College System of New Hampshire), Bree Oleson, Alecia Magnifico.

Who opposes the bill: Danielle Carrier.

Who is neutral on the bill: No one signed in neutrality to this bill.

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Sullivan

- Senator Sullivan introduced House Bill 193 on behalf of the prime sponsor, Representative Ladd.

Shannon Reid, Director of Government Affairs for the Community College System of New Hampshire

- Ms. Reid established that New Hampshire has had a dual and concurrent enrollment program for decades, enabling high school students to enroll in college-level classes so that students earn both high school and college credits. She expressed that the program is successful and serves more than 10,000 students yearly, collectively earning 60,000 college credits. She continued that the program helps students accelerate their college and career pathways.

- Ms. Reid stated that this bill confirms that the courses eligible for state funding shall be no more than four credits. She highlighted that a few classes offered at the community college level are significantly more credits and were never intended to be funded by the state program.
- Senator Abbas asked Ms. Reid for examples of courses that are more than four credits. Ms. Reid stated that the courses that are more than four credits tend to be in highly technical fields like aviation technology, airframe, power plant, some paramedic and fire programs, and some nursing programs.
- Senator Sullivan asked Ms. Reid why we would not want to include those courses in the program. Ms. Reid expressed that the program only has limited funds, and the money can only be stretched so far. She established that limiting the courses eligible to classes that earn up to four credits allows for more students to participate in the program.
- Senator Ward asked how many years a student is eligible to enroll in these courses and how many courses they are allowed to participate in. Ms. Reid established that students can enroll in as many courses as they want to, but the program covers up to four classes a year; any additional costs students would have to pay for. However, the funding does not allow the program to fund four; it often funds two courses. She continued that students can begin as early as 10th grade if the course is eligible, but most participants are in grades 11 and 12.
- Senator Ward asked how many credits are needed to graduate from college. Ms. Reid explained that associate's degrees are typically 60 to 65 credits. She mentioned that the program produces students who have already earned associate degrees by the time they graduate high school every year.
- Senator Ward asked if the courses offered are what she would refer to as core courses so students can get them done and take more concentrated classes after high school. Ms. Reid explained that students can take a wide array of courses, from foundational courses like math and English to specific classes in human biology, natural sciences, and business.