

By: Representatives Barton, Bell (21st),  
Stamps, Gibbs (72nd)

To: Universities and  
Colleges

HOUSE BILL NO. 1394

1 AN ACT TO CREATE THE DUAL CREDIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
2 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, WHICH SHALL CONSIST OF THE ACADEMIC DUAL  
3 CREDIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND THE CAREER AND  
4 TECHNICAL DUAL CREDIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; TO  
5 REQUIRE THE MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD TO ADMINISTER THE  
6 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

8 **SECTION 1.** (1) There is created the Dual Credit Community  
9 College Scholarship Program. The program shall consist of the  
10 Academic Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program  
11 provided for under subsection (3) and the Career and Technical  
12 Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program provided for  
13 under subsection (4).

14 (2) The Mississippi Community College Board shall administer  
15 the Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program. The board  
16 shall develop rules and regulations to implement the program for  
17 participating public community and junior colleges that provide  
18 dual credit and dual enrollment opportunities to high school  
19 students who meet certain qualifications. The Mississippi  
20 Community College Board shall create a platform for interested



21 students to apply online for the scholarships. Funding for  
22 approved scholarships must be awarded to the credit of the public  
23 community or junior college providing the dual credit instruction.  
24 Public community and junior colleges shall be the sole provider of  
25 dual credit for students participating in the program. Funding  
26 for this program will be administered through a special fund at  
27 the Mississippi Community College Board and is subject to  
28 appropriation.

29 (3) (a) The Academic Dual Credit Community College  
30 Scholarship Program is limited to one hundred thirty thousand  
31 (130,000) semester hours of credit in the 2022-2023 academic year.  
32 Subject to appropriation, for the 2022-2023 academic year, each  
33 academic dual credit student scholarship must be funded at One  
34 Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per semester hour of credit, and  
35 for each academic year thereafter, the public community and junior  
36 colleges shall adjust the per semester credit hour rate based on  
37 system-wide actual tuition costs.

38 (b) All eligible public, private and homeschooled high  
39 school students must be approved for participation in the Academic  
40 Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program, subject to the  
41 following criteria:

42 (i) All dual credit standards including, but not  
43 limited to, Academic & Eligibility Requirements, Course  
44 Requirements, Faculty and Institutional Qualifications and  
45 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on



46 Colleges (SACSCOC) accreditation criteria as provided in the  
47 *Procedures Manual for the State of Mississippi Dual Enrollment and*  
48 *Accelerated Programs*, jointly adopted by the Board of Trustees of  
49 State Institutions of Higher Learning and the Mississippi  
50 Community College Board, or a subsequent document, must be  
51 strictly adhered to.

52 (ii) Students participating in the program must  
53 reside within the State of Mississippi.

54 (iii) Students participating in the program are  
55 responsible for books, supplies and transportation costs.

56 (4) (a) The Career and Technical Dual Credit Community  
57 College Scholarship Program is limited to twenty thousand (20,000)  
58 semester hours of credit in the 2022-2023 academic year. Subject  
59 to appropriation, each career and technical dual credit student  
60 scholarship must be funded at Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00)  
61 per semester hour of credit beginning in the 2022-2023 academic  
62 year.

63 (b) All eligible public, private and homeschooled high  
64 school students must be approved for participation in the Career  
65 and Technical Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program,  
66 subject to the following criteria:

67 (i) All dual credit standards including, but not  
68 limited to, Career and Technical Eligibility Requirements, Course  
69 Requirements, Faculty and Institutional Qualifications and  
70 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on



71 Colleges (SACSCOC) accreditation criteria as provided in the  
72 *Procedures Manual for the State of Mississippi Dual Enrollment and*  
73 *Accelerated Programs*, jointly adopted by the Board of Trustees of  
74 State Institutions of Higher Learning and the Mississippi  
75 Community College Board, or a subsequent document, must be  
76 strictly adhered to.

77 (ii) Laboratories designed for providing  
78 instruction in career and technical courses must meet community  
79 and junior colleges' standards of quality.

80 (iii) Students participating in the program must  
81 reside within the State of Mississippi.

82 (iv) Students participating in the program are  
83 responsible for books, tools, supplies and transportation costs.

84 (5) The Mississippi Community College Board shall set  
85 application deadlines for dual credit students applying for Dual  
86 Credit Community College Scholarship Program funds. If funds are  
87 insufficient to fully fund scholarship awards for eligible  
88 students, scholarship awards must be prorated among all eligible  
89 students to the credit of public community and junior colleges.

90 (6) The Legislature may appropriate funds annually to  
91 implement, administer and make awards under the programs provided  
92 for in this section. The Mississippi Community College Board may  
93 seek, accept and expend funds from any source, including private  
94 business, industry, foundations and other groups as well as any  
95 federal or other governmental funding available for this purpose.



96           (7) At the end of the fiscal year, any unexpended balances  
97 appropriated by the Legislature for the implementation or  
98 administration of programs provided for in this section do not  
99 lapse into the State General Fund but must carry over and be  
100 available for expenditure in the succeeding fiscal year for the  
101 same purpose.

102           (8) The Dual Credit Community College Scholarship Program  
103 must be suspended if funding is not provided.

104           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
105 and after July 1, 2022.

