

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.

