

By: Senator(s) Parks, Jackson

To: Universities and  
Colleges; Appropriations

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 2487

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 37-106-85, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
2 1972, TO ESTABLISH THE MISSISSIPPI DUAL ENROLLMENT/DUAL CREDIT  
3 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE MISSISSIPPI  
4 POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BOARD; TO SET CERTAIN  
5 DEFINITIONS; TO CREATE NEW SECTION 37-106-87, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF  
6 1972, TO SET ELIGIBILITY FOR FUNDING AND PARTICIPATION; TO PROVIDE  
7 THAT ALL PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS SHALL BE REIMBURSED AT THE  
8 RATE OF 40% OF THE AVERAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CREDIT HOUR TUITION  
9 RATE FOR THE CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR; TO SET CERTAIN EXCLUSIONS; TO  
10 CREATE NEW SECTION 37-106-89, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO SET  
11 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS; TO PROVIDE THAT EACH  
12 ELIGIBLE STUDENT MAY BE QUALIFIED FOR FUNDING OF UP TO FIFTEEN  
13 DUAL CREDIT SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS PRIOR TO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION;  
14 TO SET CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE PROGRAM; TO CREATE NEW SECTION  
15 37-106-91, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO SET CERTAIN CRITERIA TO  
16 PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM; TO PROVIDE OTHER REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
17 PROGRAM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

19 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section  
20 37-106-85, Mississippi Code of 1972:

21 37-106-85. (1) There is hereby created the Mississippi Dual  
22 Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program, to be administered by  
23 the Mississippi Postsecondary Education Financial Assistance Board  
24 established under Section 37-106-9. The board shall set the dates  
25 and deadlines for applying for funding for dual credit courses of



26 eligible Mississippi high school students under this section and  
27 award scholarships for those who meet the eligibility requirements  
28 to participating institutions provided herein.

29 (2) As used in this act, the following terms shall have the  
30 meaning ascribed in this subsection, unless context clearly  
31 requires otherwise:

32 (a) "Institution" means any post-secondary educational  
33 institution that is a public state-supported institution of higher  
34 learning, a public state-supported community or junior college or  
35 any not-for-profit private institution of higher learning in the  
36 state. The term does not include proprietary colleges or  
37 universities.

38 (b) "Student" means a high school student in a public,  
39 private, charter or home-school program in Mississippi.

40 (c) "Board" means the Mississippi Postsecondary  
41 Education Financial Assistance Board established in Section  
42 37-106-9, which is authorized and empowered to administer the  
43 provisions of Title 37, Chapter 106, Mississippi Code of 1972.

44 (d) "Director" means the individual designated by the  
45 Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning to  
46 administer the provisions of the various financial assistance  
47 programs by promulgating the necessary rules and regulations for  
48 their effective administration.

49 (e) "Dual Enrolled Student" is "a student who is  
50 enrolled in a community or junior college or state institution of



51 higher learning while enrolled in high school" as defined in  
52 Section 37-15-37(1) (a), Mississippi Code of 1972.

53 (f) "Dual Credit Student" is "a student who is enrolled  
54 in a community or junior college or state institution of higher  
55 learning while enrolled in high school and who is receiving high  
56 school and college credit for postsecondary coursework" as defined  
57 in Section 37-15-38(1) (b), Mississippi Code of 1972.

58 (g) "Manual" means the Procedures Manual for the State  
59 of Mississippi Dual Enrollment & Accelerated Programs of which the  
60 contents of the manual are evaluated and approved by the Academic  
61 Officers of both the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges  
62 and the Mississippi institutions of higher learning.

63 (h) "Program" means the Mississippi Dual  
64 Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program.

65 **SECTION 2.** The following shall be codified as Section  
66 37-106-87, Mississippi Code of 1972:

67 37-106-87. (1) An institution may participate in the  
68 program by following the guidelines prescribed in the Procedures  
69 Manual for the State of Mississippi Dual Enrollment & Accelerated  
70 Programs and the requirements established by the board for  
71 participating institutions set forth herein.

72 (2) Eligibility for funding shall be incorporated into the  
73 Procedures Manual for the State of Mississippi Dual Enrollment &  
74 Accelerated Programs Manual, which will outline the specific  
75 criteria. The Academic Officers of both the Mississippi



76 Association of Community Colleges and the Mississippi Institutions  
77 of Higher Learning shall evaluate and approve the contents of the  
78 manual each year.

79 (3) The board shall administer the Dual Enrollment/Dual  
80 Credit Scholarship Program as outlined in the Procedures Manual  
81 for the State of Mississippi Dual Enrollment & Accelerated  
82 Programs Manual. Funds shall be distributed by the board to the  
83 providing higher education institution on behalf of each eligible  
84 student after the enrollment verification period. Funds shall not  
85 be distributed by the board directly to the student.

86 (4) Participation in the Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual  
87 Credit Scholarship Program is optional for all institutions  
88 defined in subsection 2(a) of this section; provided that in order  
89 to qualify for funding, all guidelines in the manual must be  
90 followed by each institution.

91 (5) All participating institutions shall be reimbursed at  
92 the rate of forty percent (40%) of the average community college  
93 credit hour tuition rate for the current academic year.

94 (6) Participating institutions may elect to exclude specific  
95 centers, branch campuses, collegiate academies and middle colleges  
96 within their governance or purview from participating in the  
97 Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program.

98 **SECTION 3.** The following shall be codified as Section  
99 37-106-89, Mississippi Code of 1972:



100       37-106-89. (1) To participate in the program, the  
101 scholarship applicant shall satisfy the student eligibility  
102 requirements prescribed in the procedures manual for the State of  
103 Mississippi Dual Enrollment & Accelerated Programs and the  
104 requirements established for student eligibility set forth herein.

105       (2) Each eligible student may be qualified for funding of up  
106 to fifteen (15) dual credit semester credit hours prior to high  
107 school graduation.

108       (3) If a dual credit student wishes to take more than  
109 fifteen (15) dual credit hours, he/she may be charged regular  
110 tuition rates or another rate determined by the college.

111       (4) Eligible students must meet the eligibility requirements  
112 as outlined in the procedures manual for the State of Mississippi  
113 Dual Enrollment & Accelerated Programs Manual.

114       (5) All students who meet the eligibility requirements as  
115 outlined in the manual, regardless of participation method, shall  
116 meet the requirements for funding allocation to the participating  
117 post-secondary educational institution.

118       (6) All Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program  
119 student recipients shall be required to participate in an advising  
120 component related to the Mississippi Articulation and Transfer  
121 Tool (MATT) to ensure their understanding of course(s)  
122 transferability.

123       (7) Books, course materials, tools, supplies, lab fees,  
124 transportation costs and other applicable course fees shall be the



125 responsibility of the student or high school district. The Dual  
126 Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program funds shall not cover  
127 such costs.

128 (8) To ensure appropriate articulation of college credits to  
129 other institutions, only the courses on the "Approved Academic  
130 Dual Credit Listing" (Appendix V of the Manual) shall be eligible  
131 for funding.

132 (9) Early College students shall not be eligible for the  
133 Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program  
134 funding.

135 (10) Middle College students shall be qualified for the  
136 Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program  
137 funding only if the institution complies with the requirements of  
138 the manual.

139 (11) To participate in the program, students must be  
140 residents of the State of Mississippi. Resident status for the  
141 purposes of receiving assistance under this act shall be  
142 determined in the same manner as resident status for tuition  
143 purposes in Sections 37-103-1 through 37-103-29, with the  
144 exception of Section 37-103-17.

145 (12) Dual enrolled students shall be eligible to participate  
146 in the Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship  
147 Program.

148 **SECTION 4.** The following shall be codified as Section  
149 37-106-91, Mississippi Code of 1972:



150           37-106-91. (1) The following criteria shall be adhered to  
151 in order to participate in the program:

152           (a) Future enrollment at the providing institution  
153 shall not be required for a student to be eligible for the Dual  
154 Enrollment/Dual Credit Scholarship Program funds;

155           (b) It shall be up to each institution to determine  
156 which courses are offered for the Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual  
157 Credit Scholarship Program. Students shall earn one (1) high  
158 school Carnegie unit per three-hour course successfully completed  
159 through the program;

160           (c) The board shall promulgate rules as necessary to  
161 implement and administer this act;

162           (d) The board shall develop rules for ensuring that  
163 expenses of the scholarship program in a fiscal year do not exceed  
164 funding for the program in that fiscal year. For that purpose,  
165 and any other provision of this section to the contrary  
166 notwithstanding, the board may limit the acceptance of scholarship  
167 applications and may limit the award of scholarships;

168           (e) If the state appropriation is insufficient to fully  
169 fund all student participation in the program in a given year,  
170 those funds will be prorated to the student's account at the  
171 eligible participating institution by an amount to be determined  
172 by the board. The student or school district shall then be  
173 responsible for the remaining balance due for the course taken to  
174 the providing institution;



175           (f) The board may conduct its own annual audits of any  
176 institution participating in the Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual  
177 Credit Scholarship Program. The board may suspend or revoke an  
178 institution's eligibility to receive future monies under the  
179 program if it finds that the institution has not complied with the  
180 provisions of the procedures manual for the State of Mississippi  
181 Dual Enrollment & Accelerated Programs and the requirements  
182 established in this section;

183           (g) The board may conduct its own annual audits of  
184 students participating in the Mississippi Dual Enrollment/Dual  
185 Credit Scholarship Program. The board may suspend or revoke a  
186 high school's eligibility to participate in the program if it  
187 finds the student or high school has not complied with the  
188 provisions of the procedures manual for the State of Mississippi  
189 Dual Enrollment & Accelerated Programs and the requirements  
190 established in this section;

191           (h) The board is hereby authorized to receive one  
192 percent (1.0%) of the annual amount appropriated for this program  
193 to offset the expenses of administering this program;

194           (i) The average community college credit hour tuition  
195 amount for the current academic year shall be provided annually by  
196 the Mississippi Community College Board to the Director of the  
197 Board; and

198           (j) At the end of the fiscal year, any unexpended  
199 balances appropriated by the Legislature for the implementation or





200 administration of the program provided for in this section shall  
201 not lapse into the State General Fund, but shall carry over and be  
202 available for expenditure in the succeeding fiscal year for the  
203 same purpose.

204         **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
205 and after July 1, 2023, and shall stand repealed on June 30, 2023.

