

FISCAL NOTE

April 8, 2019

Bill No:	HB 334	Printer's No:	858	Sponsor:	Grove (R)
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COST / (SAVINGS)

Fund (s)	2018-19	2019-20
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	See Fiscal Impact

SUMMARY: This bill provides for powers and duties of the Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence, utilization of credits towards vocational and technical programs, and establishment or renewal of classification of program codes by public schools.

ANALYSIS: HB 334 establishes that the Commission for Agricultural Education Excellence, in consultation with and with the approval of the Department of Education (PDE), shall develop guidelines to identify the circumstances when a student who successfully completes an academic course, program or activity for credit may apply the credit toward the completion of an agricultural education program or a course, program or activity offered by any area vocational-technical school, technical institute or vocational school or department. The guidelines developed shall be posted on PDE's website within fifteen days of approval and PDE shall review the guidelines at least every five years. Any proposed update to the guidelines shall be developed in consultation with the commission.

PDE shall also establish a standard application form for a public school entity seeking approval to establish or renew a classification of program code. The form shall be published on PDE's website and include:

- The name of the public school entity seeking approval to establish or renew a classification of program code.
- The title of the classification of program code.
- The occupational competency area of the classification of program code.
- A description of the classification of program code.
- A list of skills that a student must attain in order to complete the classification of program code.
- Evidence of financial support for the classification of program code from the public school entity.
- Any additional information that the department deems necessary to determine whether to approve or disapprove of the classification of program code.

PDE shall approve or deny submitted applications no later than May 31 of the year the department receives the application and post the classification of program code on its website no later than June 15 of the year the application is approved.

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FISCAL IMPACT: The cost to PDE depends on the number of schools which apply for a classification of instructional program (CIP) which is not aligned with the National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI). Zero public schools utilized a previous similar CIP pilot program.

For each creation of a CIP code, PDE would need to develop an aligned curriculum, develop an end-of-course exam unless an aligned national NOCTI exam exists, and secure a minimum number of 200 test takers or issue waivers to permit the non-validated CIP to continue to exist.

To develop a new CIP, PDE uses state assessment funds and a contract with NOCTI. A new assessment is approximately \$10,000 for the state to develop a portion of the current contract with NOCTI. PDE also must pull together a statewide committee, one staff person to attend the one-day workshop, coordinate follow-up surveys and contract with a psychometrician to finalize the test questions. PDE provides a \$25 per student incentive to pilot test. The test has a performance component, and this helps the school cover the materials used in testing, which is approximately another \$10,000 for the department. Therefore, there is a cost of approximately \$20,000 to PDE for each new CIP code.

Schools must determine the need for a program and if it is not an option in the current CIP listing, schools work with the school board and Workforce Development Board to identify the skills need. Schools then hire a teacher to develop curriculum, conduct occupational analysis, convene businesses to identify specific skills, and purchase equipment and instructional materials. The cost for these program development responsibilities is approximately \$100,000 depending on equipment needs and staffing costs and must be conducted before seeking new approval.

For existing CIPs, school costs are reduced because curriculum can be gathered from other schools already utilizing the program.

Cost for each new CIP code

Department of Education		
State assessment funds and NOCTI contract		\$10,000
Test finalization, student incentives, and performance component		\$10,000
PDE Total		\$20,000
Public school entities		
Needs determination, curriculum development and analysis, and equipment and materials purchase		\$100,000
LEA Total		\$100,000
Total Cost (General Fund and School Districts)		\$120,000

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