

House Bill 2589

Sponsored by Representative ALONSO LEON (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires public institutions of higher education to bypass developmental educational requirements and placement tests for each student who receives grade on approved high school equivalency test indicating student is fully qualified to bypass requirements and tests.

Requires public institutions of higher education to bypass requirements and tests for score of 165 or higher received on General Educational Development (GED) test unless institution notifies Higher Education Coordinating Commission that institution considers score of higher than 165 in identified subject areas to be necessary to bypass requirements and tests.

Requires commission to convene committee upon notification by institution to make final determination, based on justification provided by institution, on whether institution may require score of higher than 165 on General Educational Development (GED) test for student to bypass requirements and tests. Requires committee to submit report to committees of Legislative Assembly relating to higher education if committee agrees with institution's justification.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to receiving credit for competencies demonstrated prior to enrolling in post-secondary in-
3 stitution of education.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, "public institution of higher education" has the**
6 **meaning given that term in ORS 350.350.**

7 **(2) The waiver of a requirement to fulfill developmental educational requirements or**
8 **placement tests at a public institution of higher education under this section must align with**
9 **state statutes, rules, standards and requirements regarding the developmental educational**
10 **requirements or placement tests at public institutions of higher education.**

11 **(3)(a) Each public institution of higher education shall allow a student to bypass devel-**
12 **opmental educational requirements and placement tests for each subject area in which an**
13 **incoming student enrolled at the institution has:**

14 **(A) Received a certificate for passing an approved high school equivalency test such as**
15 **the General Educational Development (GED) test as provided in ORS 350.175; and**

16 **(B) Received a grade indicating that the student is qualified to bypass developmental ed-**
17 **ucational requirements and placement tests in that subject area.**

18 **(b) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, a student shall be considered to**
19 **have received a grade indicating that the student is qualified to bypass developmental edu-**
20 **cational requirements and placement tests in a subject area in which the student has re-**
21 **ceived a score of 165 or higher on a General Educational Development (GED) test for which**
22 **the Director of the Office of Community Colleges and Workforce Development has issued a**
23 **certificate under ORS 350.175.**

24 **(4)(a) A public institution of higher education may notify the Higher Education Coordi-**
25 **nating Commission if the institution considers it necessary to require that, in order to by-**

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 pass developmental educational requirements and placement tests, incoming enrolled
 2 students receive a score of higher than 165 on a General Educational Development (GED)
 3 test.

4 (b) Upon receiving notice under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the commission shall
 5 convene a committee to determine whether the institution may require a score of higher
 6 than 165 on the identified subject area of a General Educational Development (GED) test in
 7 order for a student to bypass developmental educational requirements and placement tests.
 8 Subject to paragraph (d) of this subsection, the commission may use a currently existing
 9 committee or work group for the purpose of complying with this subsection.

10 (c) A committee convened under this subsection shall:

11 (A) Include representatives from the faculty and staff of public universities listed in ORS
 12 352.002 and community colleges as defined in ORS 341.005; and

13 (B) Consult with a representative from the General Educational Development (GED) test
 14 prior to issuing a final determination under paragraph (d) of this subsection.

15 (d) A committee convened under this subsection shall make a final determination on
 16 whether the public institution of higher education may require that a student receive a score
 17 of higher than 165 in the identified subject area on a General Educational Development
 18 (GED) test in order to bypass developmental educational requirements and placement tests.
 19 The determination must be based on whether the institution has provided justification for
 20 each subject area in which a score of 165 on a General Educational Development (GED) test
 21 is not sufficient for a student to bypass developmental educational requirements and place-
 22 ment tests. The justification must include:

23 (A) A thorough analysis of placement validity findings detailing the academic perform-
 24 ance of students at the public institution of higher education who have taken the General
 25 Educational Development (GED) test, with disaggregated data on courses of study and exam
 26 scores; and

27 (B) Specific data on learning outcomes that have not been met by students who receive
 28 a score of 165 on the General Educational Development (GED) test.

29 (5) If a committee convened under subsection (4) of this section determines that a public
 30 institution of higher education may require that students receive a score of higher than 165
 31 on a General Educational Development (GED) test in order to bypass developmental educa-
 32 tional requirements and placement tests, the committee shall submit a report detailing the
 33 final determination, including the justification provided by the institution under subsection
 34 (4)(d) of this section, to the committees of the Legislative Assembly responsible for higher
 35 education. The report must be submitted no later than the final day of the first regular
 36 session of the Legislative Assembly that begins after the committee has made the final de-
 37 termination.

38 (6) The Higher Education Coordinating Commission may adopt rules to implement this
 39 section.

40 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2021 Act first applies to the 2022-2023 academic year.