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LEGISLATIVE EDUCATION STUDY COMMITTEE
BILL ANALYSIS
54th Legislature, 1st Session, 2019

Bill Number HB420 **Sponsor** Romero, G. Andrés/Lara/Figueroa/Garratt
Tracking Number .212548.1 **Committee Referrals** HEC/HSEIC
Short Title School Advanced Placement Policy & Reporting
Analyst Bedeaux **Original Date** 2/13/19
Last Updated _____

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 420 (HB420) would require each public postsecondary institution to accept a score of three or higher on College Board Advanced Placement (AP) examinations for postsecondary credit, unless the chief academic officer at the institution provides evidence that a higher score is necessary for a student to be successful in a subsequent course. The Higher Education Department (HED) would be required to collect and report the AP acceptance policy from each institution to determine the credits earned from AP exams and would be required to file a report including findings and recommendations to the Legislature and the governor.

FISCAL IMPACT

HB420 does not contain an appropriation.

SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

HB420 would establish a statutory statewide AP policy beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. Institutions of higher education would be required to accept a score of three or higher on AP exams as credit for a corresponding course. If the institution does not have a corresponding course, the institution would be required to count the AP exam as an elective course credit.

HB420 would not substantially alter an August 2018 HED policy establishing statewide course equivalencies for AP exam scores of three or higher. See Attachment, *HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies*. According to the policy, an AP exam score of three generates credit for an entry-level course, while scores of four and five may generate credit for higher level courses. For example, an AP Computer Science exam score of three currently counts as credit for “Computer Science I,” while a score of four or five counts as credit toward “Object-Oriented Programming.” Prior to this policy, each institution set their own course equivalencies.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Institutions of higher education would be required to provide course-granting methodology to HED, including evidence-based research if the institution chooses to require an AP exam score greater than three for course credit.

HED would be required to assemble course-granting policies from each institution of higher education and publish findings and recommendations in a report to the Legislature and the governor.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

HB420 substantively duplicates SB208 from the 2017 session, which passed unanimously in the House and Senate but was pocket vetoed.

New Mexico students attempted over 17 thousand AP exams in the 2017-2018 school year and 6,808 exams were successfully completed with a score of three or higher, with an average pass rate of 39.4 percent. As is the case with other academic achievement data in New Mexico, AP exam scores and pass rates show a large achievement gap along demographic and socioeconomic lines. Additionally, fewer AP exams were attempted in the 2017-2018 school year than in the previous year.

**New Mexico Advanced Placement Scores
by Race and Ethnicity**

Race or Ethnicity	FY17				FY18			
	Number of Tests	Tests Passed	Percent Passed	Average Score	Number of Tests	Tests Passed	Percent Passed	Average Score
American Indian/Alaska Native	967	73	7.5%	1.4	682	93	13.6%	1.6
Asian	880	466	53.0%	2.8	812	466	57.4%	2.9
Black	190	41	21.6%	1.9	174	63	36.2%	2.3
Hispanic/Latino	9,901	2,987	30.2%	2.1	9,474	2,990	31.6%	2.1
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	26	8	30.8%	2.0	17	2	11.8%	1.8
No Response	208	91	43.8%	2.4	179	68	38.0%	2.3
Two or More Races	554	279	50.4%	2.7	572	304	53.1%	2.7
White	5,543	2,944	53.1%	2.7	5,382	2,822	52.4%	2.7
Other	2	*	*	*	0	0	0.0%	*
Total	18,271	6,890	37.7%	2.3	17,292	6,808	39.4%	2.3

Source: College Board

*Frequency distributions and mean scores are reported when there are five or more exam takers in a field. Beginning with the 2015-2016 school year, the collection and reporting of race and ethnicity was updated to align with U.S. Department of Education guidelines.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- LESC Files
- Higher Education Department (HED)
- Public Education Department (PED)

TB/mc

HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies

AP EXAM	SCORE	COURSE EQUIVALENT
Art		
Art History	3	History of Art I
	4, 5	History of Art I & History of Art II
Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio	3	Drawing I or Design I
	4, 5	Drawing I OR Design I AND Drawing II
Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio	3	Drawing I or Design I
	4, 5	Drawing I OR Design I AND Drawing II
Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio	3, 4, 5	Drawing I OR Design I

Biology		
*Lab credit only if AP course had a lab. If no lab, student will need to take the lab associated with the class for the credit given.		
Biology	3	Bio for Health Sciences and Lab* OR Natural History of Life and Lab* OR General Bio and Lab*
Biology	4	Cellular and Molecular Bio and Lab*
Biology	5	Cellular and Molecular Bio and Lab*

Chemistry		
*Lab credit only if AP course had a lab. If no lab, student will need to take the lab associated with the class for the credit given.		
Chemistry	3	Chemistry in Our Community and Lab*
Chemistry	4	Gen Chem I for STEM Majors and Lab*
Chemistry	5	Gen Chem I for STEM Majors and Lab* AND Gen Chem II for STEM Majors and Lab*

Computer Science		
Computer Science A	3	Computer Science I
	4, 5	Object Oriented Programming
Computer Science Principles	3, 4, 5	Algorithms and Data Structures

HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies

Economics		
Macroeconomics	3, 4, 5	Macroeconomics
Microeconomics	3, 4, 5	Microeconomics
English		
English Language and Composition	3, 4, 5	Comp 1
English Literature and Composition	3, 4, 5	Intro to Literature
Environmental Science		
Environmental Science	3, 4, 5	Environmental Science I OR Forestry
Geography		
Human Geography	3, 4, 5	People and Place
History		
European History	3	Western Civ I
	4, 5	Western Civ I AND Western Civ II
United States History	3	US Hist I
	4, 5	US Hist I AND US Hist II
World History	3	World Hist I
	4, 5	World Hist I AND World Hist II

HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies

Languages		
Option: Score 4 or higher may fulfill language requirement for language not taught at HEI		
Chinese Language & Culture	3	1 st Semester Intensive Mandarin Chinese
	4	1 st Semester Intensive Mandarin Chinese AND 2 nd Semester Intensive Chinese
	5	1 st Semester Intensive Mandarin Chinese, 2 nd Semester Intensive Chinese AND 3 rd Semester Mandarin Chinese
French Language & Culture	3	French I
	4	French I AND French II
	5	French I, French II, AND French III
German Language & Culture	3	German I
	4	German I AND German II
	5	German I, German II, AND German III
Italian Language & Culture	3	Italian I
	4	Italian I AND Italian II
	5	Italian I, Italian II, AND Italian III
Japanese Language & Culture	3	Japanese I
	4	Japanese I AND Japanese II
	5	Japanese I, Japanese II, AND Japanese III
Latin	3	Latin I
	4	Latin I AND Latin II
	5	Latin I, Latin II, AND Latin III
Spanish Language & Culture	3	Spanish I
	4	Spanish I AND Spanish II
	5	Spanish I, Spanish II, AND Spanish III

Math		
*Calc I only if Calc AB subscore of a 4		
^Calc II credit upon successful completion of Calc III		
Calculus AB	3	Pre – Calc
	4, 5	Calc I
Calculus BC	3	Calc I*
	4	Calc I and Calc II^
	5	Calc I AND Calc II
Statistics	3, 4, 5	Intro to Statistics

HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies

Music			
*Please note for Music Theory to please contact individual institutions (listed or unlisted) for appropriate AP credit and placement.			
Music Theory	CCC	3,4,5	Fundamentals of Music I 3 credits
Music Theory	ENMU Main	3,	Music Theory I 3 Credits
		4, 5	Music Theory I 6 credits & Music Theory II
Music Theory	ENMU Portales	3,	Music Theory I 3 Credits
		4, 5	Music Theory I 6 credits & Music Theory II
Music Theory	NMHU	3,	Music Theory I 3 Credits
		4, 5	Music Theory I 6 credits & Music Theory II
Music Theory	NMSU and Branches	3,4,5	Fundamentals of Music 3 credits
Music Theory	NMT	3,4,5	Comprehensive Musicianship I 3 credit hours
Music Theory	SJC	3,4	Major Ensemble Choral 3 Credits
		5	Major Ensemble Choral & Major Ensemble Band 6 Credits
Music Theory	UNM and Branches	3, 4,	Music Theory I/ Music Theory I Lab 4 Credits
		5	Music Theory I/ Music Theory I Lab 8 credits & Music Theory II/ Music Theory II Lab
Music Theory	WNMU	N/A	Reviewed and approved by WNMU faculty

HED Advanced Placement Exam Scores and Statewide Course Equivalencies

Physics		
*Lab credit only if AP course had a lab. If no lab, student will need to take the lab associated with the class for the credit given.		
Physics 1	3, 4, 5	Algebra Based Physics I and Lab*
Physics 2	3, 4, 5	Algebra Based Physics II and Lab*
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	3, 4, 5	Calc Based Physics II and Lab*
Physics C: Mechanics	3, 4, 5	Calc Based Physics I and Lab*
Political Science		
Comparative Government and Politics	3, 4, 5	Comparative Politics (100 Level)
United States Government and Politics	3, 4, 5	American National Government
Psychology		
Psychology	3, 4, 5	Intro to Psychology