

# Fast Track to College

This Act allows colleges and universities to offer programs to enable qualified students to earn a high school diploma while earning credits for a certificate program, an associate's or a baccalaureate degree. This Act also establishes a Double Up for College Dual High School-College Credit Program enabling high schools to offer at least two dual credit and advanced placement courses each year to high school students.

Submitted as:

Indiana

[HB 1347 \(enrolled version\)](#)

Status: Enacted into law in 2006.

## Suggested State Legislation

(Title, enacting clause, etc.)

1           Section 1. [*Short Title.*] This Act shall be cited as “The Fast Track to College Act.”

2  
3           Section 2. [*Fast Track to College Program Established.*]

4           (a) A state educational institution as defined by [insert citation] may establish a High  
5 School Fast Track to College Program that offers qualified people an opportunity to earn a high  
6 school diploma while earning credits for a degree.

7           (b) To be eligible to earn a high school diploma under this section, an individual must be  
8 either:

9                   (1) at least [nineteen (19)] years of age and not enrolled in a school; or

10                   (2) at least [seventeen (17)] years of age and have consent from the high school the  
11 individual attended most recently. The school corporation in which an individual to whom this  
12 subdivision applies resides shall pay the individual's tuition for high school level courses taken at  
13 the state educational institution during each year the individual is included in the school  
14 corporation's [ADM].

15           (c) To complete the requirements for a high school diploma under this section, the  
16 individual must have:

17                   (1) passed:

18                           (A) the graduation examination given under [insert citation];

19                           (B) an examination for a General Educational Development Diploma as  
20 defined under [insert citation];

21                           (C) an examination equivalent to the graduation examination:

22                                   (i) administered by the state educational institution; and

23                                   (ii) approved by the state [department of education]; or

24                           (D) an examination that demonstrates the student is ready for college level

25 work:

26                                   (i) administered by the state educational institution; and

27                                   (ii) approved by the state [department of education]; and

28                   (2) completed the coursework necessary to meet:

29                           (A) the minimum high school course requirements established by the state  
30 [Board of Education]; and

31                           (B) the requirements of the state educational institution.

32 (d) In addition to meeting the requirements set forth in subsections (b) and (c), an  
33 individual must have the credits toward graduation that the individual successfully completed in  
34 high school transferred to the state educational institution.

35 (e) The state educational institution shall notify the [state board of education] that an  
36 individual has successfully completed the requirements of a program established under this  
37 section. Upon receiving the notification, the [state board] shall:

38 (1) grant to the individual a high school diploma that states the name of the state  
39 educational institution at which the individual earned the high school diploma; and

40 (2) provide the diploma to the state educational institution to award to the  
41 individual.

42 (f) A state educational institution that establishes a program under this section shall report  
43 annually to [insert agency] as defined by [insert citation] the number of program participants and  
44 diplomas granted.

45  
46 Section 3. *[Double Up For College Program Established.]*

47 (a) As used in this section of this Act:

48 (1) “postsecondary credit” means credit toward an associate degree, a baccalaureate  
49 degree, or a vocational certification granted by a state educational institution as defined under  
50 [insert citation] upon the successful completion of a course taken under the program.

51 (2) “program” refers to the Double Up For College Program established under this  
52 section of this Act.

53 (3) “secondary credit” means credit toward high school graduation requirements  
54 granted by a student's school corporation upon the successful completion of a course taken under  
55 the program.

56 (b) The Double Up For College Program is established for secondary school students in  
57 grades 11 and 12. School corporations as defined under [insert citation] and state educational  
58 institutions as defined under [insert citation] may collaborate to offer early college, dual credit, or  
59 dual enrollment programs that meet the educational objectives of the school corporation and are  
60 offered by the state educational institutions.

61 (c) A student may enroll in courses offered by a state educational institution under the  
62 program on a full-time or part-time basis during grade 11 or grade 12, or both.

63 (d) A state educational institution that participates in an early college, a dual credit, or a  
64 dual enrollment program may, by agreement with a school corporation:

65 (1) ensure that the content and rigor of each course offered is adequate to warrant  
66 providing credit to a student as if the student took the course as a student at the state educational  
67 institution;

68 (2) set the criteria for the faculty member, instructor, or other individual  
69 responsible for teaching each course with the:

70 (A) state educational institution responsible for hiring the personnel to  
71 instruct dual credit courses taught by the state educational institution; and

72 (B) school corporation responsible for hiring personnel to instruct dual  
73 credit courses taught by the high school; and

74 (3) determine with the school corporation the terms and conditions under which:

75 (A) students may be admitted to the program while attending high school;

76 (B) the state educational institution will award credit, if any, for specified  
77 courses successfully completed by students through the school corporation; and

78 (C) the school corporation will award credit, if any, for specified courses  
79 successfully completed through the state educational institution.

80 (e) A student is entitled to credit toward graduation requirements for each course the student  
81 successfully completes at the eligible institution.

82 (f) Courses offered under the program that are listed in the statewide core transfer library  
83 shall include courses that are transferable on all campuses of the state educational institutions in  
84 accordance with the principles in [insert citation] or articulation agreements that apply to any  
85 campus in the [state community college system] as defined in [insert citation] to draw from liberal  
86 arts and the technical, professional, and occupational fields; are among those eligible for the  
87 program.

88 (g) If a student passes a course through the program that is part of an articulation agreement  
89 between the state educational institution offering the course and other state educational  
90 institutions, the course shall transfer under the terms and standards of the articulation agreement  
91 between the state educational institutions.

92 (h) Based on the demand for enrollment in the identified courses and the resources  
93 available to the state educational institutions, the identified courses may be offered through:

- 94 (1) onsite instruction;
- 95 (2) telecommunication; or
- 96 (3) a combination of methods described in subdivisions (1) and (2).

97 (i) A school corporation may, by agreement with an institution of higher education, offer  
98 counseling concerning early college, dual credit, or dual enrollment courses that the school  
99 corporation considers appropriate, including:

- 100 (1) notice of the courses and schedule;
- 101 (2) available post-secondary credit;
- 102 (3) responsibilities of the student;
- 103 (4) any tuition and other costs;
- 104 (5) the consequences of the failure to complete a course; and
- 105 (6) opportunities presented by the program.

106 (j) A state educational institution may grant financial assistance to a student for courses  
107 taken under this program based on the student's:

- 108 (1) financial need; or
- 109 (2) academic achievement; or
- 110 (3) any other criteria.

111 (k) A state educational institution shall waive tuition for a student who is:

- 112 (1) eligible for free or reduced lunch in high school;
- 113 (2) accepted into the program; and
- 114 (3) accepted for admission to the state educational institution.

115 (l) A student shall receive postsecondary credit toward meeting the degree requirements at  
116 the state educational institution at which the student successfully completed a dual credit course. If  
117 the student enrolls in a state educational institution other than the state educational institution at  
118 which a dual credit course was completed, the other state educational institution:

- 119 (1) shall grant credit for courses that are in the core transfer library or subject to an  
120 articulation agreement; and
- 121 (2) may grant credit for other courses.

122 (m) After [June 30, 2008], a state educational institution or campus of a state educational  
123 institution that offers dual credit courses in liberal arts, professional, or career and technical  
124 disciplines must be accredited by the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships.

125  
126 Section 4. [*Severability.*] [Insert severability clause.]

127  
128 Section 5. [*Repealer.*] [Insert repealer clause.]

129

130

Section 6. [*Effective Date.*] [Insert effective date.]