



Legislation Affecting the Tennessee Board of Regents and Member Institutions *Public Acts of 2013*

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ACADEMICS	
<p>Public Chapter 46</p> <p>Memo to Senator Gresham on Brain Science in TBR Teacher Education</p>	<p>Encourages the integration of brain science research into teacher education curriculum. This act authorizes and encourages, but does not require, teacher training programs at public institutions of higher education to offer coursework on neurological or brain science research.</p> <p>Attached is a memo by Dr. Kay Clark provided to Senate Education Chair, Delores Gresham, outlining the integration of brain science into TBR teacher education programs.</p> <p><i>This legislation becomes effective upon passage.</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 213</p>	<p>Changes academic requirements for esoteric lab staff.</p> <p>This act changes the state licensing regulations to allow additional personnel with bachelor's degrees and specified chemistry and/or biology education to perform testing in state-licensed "esoteric" medical laboratories engaged in advanced and emerging areas of laboratory science using technology not traditionally used in the clinical lab setting, like chromatographic and non-chromatographic techniques coupled with mass spectrometer based detector systems and molecular diagnostic techniques. Previous law required personnel who accept specimens for laboratory examination and perform analytical testing or report the results of laboratory examination to be licensed as a technologist, technician, laboratory trainee, or special analyst.</p> <p>Specifically, personnel who possess a baccalaureate or advanced degree in the appropriate sciences with at least sixteen (16) semester hours of chemistry and/or biological science courses can now analyze or report laboratory results in esoteric labs.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013.</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 447</p>	<p>Changes to cosmetology programs.</p> <p>Requires the State Board of Cosmetology to establish rules and regulations for cosmetology programs that are 50% classroom and 50% apprenticeship with supervision from a person licensed with ten years' experience. Programs are not required to move to a 50% apprenticeship model, but are enabled to do so.</p> <p>This act also requires the State Board of Cosmetology to establish rules and regulations for separate schools that specialize solely in natural hair care, manicuring, and the practice of aesthetics.</p> <p>TBR Associate General Counsel, Wayne Pugh, is working with faculty of cosmetology and the Office of Colleges of Applied Technology to provide feedback to the State Board of Cosmetology on its rulemaking process.</p> <p><i>Promulgation of rules effective upon passage. Other elements effective July 1, 2013.</i></p>

ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

<p>Public Chapter 114</p> <p>CDC 2013 Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule (See footnote 11)</p> <p>General Counsel July 16, 2013 Legal Guidance on Immunization</p> <p>TBR Academic Policy 2:03:00:00</p>	<p>Meningitis vaccine requirement. The Jacob Nunley Act requires new incoming students at any public institution of higher learning in the state of Tennessee who will be living in on-campus student housing to provide proof of adequate immunization against meningococcal disease. This practice is recommended for adults in the current advisory committee on immunization practices, titled “Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule,” which was published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Exemptions are allowed for health and religious reasons.</p> <p>The March 2013 TBR Board meeting amended TBR Academic Policy 2:03:00:00, “Admissions,” to include the following paragraph below to Part I “PROVISIONS FOR ALL INSTITUTIONS.”</p> <p>C. MEDICAL OR HEALTH INFORMATION</p> <p>Each institution shall require all applicants for admission to provide health information that, as a minimum, establishes the applicant's compliance with Rules promulgated by the Tennessee Department of Health regarding requirement for immunization against certain diseases prior to attendance at a higher education institution, and, compliance with the latest standards for immunization for meningococcal disease as set forth by the recommended immunization schedule issued by the Center for Disease Control Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p> <p>Attached are: the CDC recommendation (<i>See footnote 11</i>), a July 16, 2013, Memo from the TBR General Counsel on Immunization, and TBR Academic Policy 2:03:00:00.</p>
<p>Public Chapter 167</p>	<p>Use of lottery information in recruitment. This act also allows TBR, THEC, and the UT system to provide information on financial aid from net lottery proceeds during their current routines of development and recruitment of Tennessee students.</p> <p><i>This legislation effective upon passage</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 120</p> <p>Legal Guidance on Public Chapter</p>	<p>Changes to the Eligibility Verification for Entitlements Act of 2012. This act defines “qualified alien” as used in 8 U.S.C. 1641(b), or an alien or nonimmigrant eligible to receive state or local benefits under 8 U.S.C. 1621 (a). The previous act left these two classes of students out of the legislation, making them ineligible to receive state benefits, like in-state tuition. The act also allows public higher education institutions to use the SEVIS system to check the immigration status of a student, as opposed to the previous usage of only the SAVE system.</p> <p>Attached is the June 10, 2013, guidance from the TBR General Counsel on the implementation of this statutory change.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 422</p>	<p>New high school occupational diploma. Under this act the Tennessee State Board of Education is tasked with creating a high school occupational diploma for students with disabilities. The Board will set appropriate standards and benchmarks of attendance, academic achievement, and job readiness for this diploma.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>

ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

[Public Chapter 448](#)

Alternative high school equivalency test. The Department of Labor and the State Board of Education are authorized to create an alternative high school equivalency test that could be given in the state in addition to the existing General Educational Development (GED). In April of 2013, the State Board of Education approved the use of HiSet as an equivalent alternative to GED testing. HiSet diplomas will be issued by the State Department of Labor and GED diplomas will be issued by Pearson, the company that now owns the GED. Both diplomas can be viewed as the equivalent of a high school diploma and indicate college readiness. The issuing of the HiSet test is set to begin in Spring of 2014. You may contact marva.doremus@tn.gov with any additional questions.

This legislation becomes effective upon passage.

APPROPRIATIONS

[Public Chapter 453](#)

Operating Budget. \$671 million was appropriated by the Governor and the General Assembly for the operations of the TBR system, compared to \$622 million in 2012, more than a seven percent (7%) increase. The unrestricted state allocation is estimated by Vice Chancellor Sims to be \$641.8 million, based on the Governor's proposed budget. The TBR Office of Business and Finance expects final numbers in September. Included in the appropriations are the following elements:

- **Outcomes based funding-**to recognizes improvement in educational outcomes at TBR institutions. Measures of these outcomes include, but are not limited to: (1) number of degrees and certificates awarded, (2) student retention and progression points, (3) research and service efforts, (4) workforce training activities and (5) graduation rates.
- **1.5% salary increase-**for state employees, including higher education.
- **Benefits-**Additional funds to support increased costs for health insurance premiums and contributions to the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System.
- **Hold Harmless-**Non-recurring state funds to address the impact of the third and final year of the phase out of the old THEC enrollment formula's hold harmless provision.
- **University of Memphis-Lambuth Campus-**\$3 million in non-recurring state funding for the University of Memphis for the third year of a five-year expansion to the Lambuth campus in Jackson.
- **MTSU Chair of Excellence-** A two million new chair is being created, subject to Board and THEC approval by joining this \$400,000 new state appropriation with \$600,000 existing funds in the Trust Fund. These non-recurring funds will serve as a State match for \$1,000,000 in private funds from the institution.
- **ETSU Quillen College of Medicine-** A \$100,000 non-recurring appropriation for the Forensic Center.
- **Equipment Money-**\$16.5 million non-recurring for equipment for the Community Colleges and the TN Colleges of Applied Technology (formerly TTCs) "It is the legislative intent that the appropriation in Section 1, Title II-10, Item 4.6, Equipment for Community Colleges and Technology Centers be used solely to meet the workforce training and educational needs of Tennesseans by only investing the funds in up-to-date equipment for hands-on student training. No part of the funds shall be used for any other purpose."

APPROPRIATIONS

[Public Chapter 453](#)

Capital Budget

- \$163.9 million in state capital outlay funding for TBR for:
 - Nashville State Tech Community College (Academic Support Building).
 - Northeast State Tech Community College (Tech Ed Complex).
 - Univ. of Memphis (Community Health Facility).
 - Nissan/TTC Murfreesboro Training Facility, a \$35 million dollar joint use facility.
 - Austin Peay State University-\$400,000 to be matched with a like amount of public or private funds to complete the Animal Science Facility.
 - Authorization to initiate planning activities on the next six (6) TBR capital priorities utilizing institutional funds, namely:
 - College of Applied Technology Additions (Chattanooga, Jackson, Paris, Shelbyville)
 - APSU: Fine Art Improvements
 - JSCC: Health Sciences Building
 - ETSU: Fine Arts Classroom Building
 - TSU: Library Addition & Renovation
 - TTU: Laboratory Science Building & Infrastructure
- \$33.8 million in capital maintenance funding for 28 projects.

Effective July 1, 2013.

BOARD OF REGENTS	
Public Chapter 473 Logo for Colleges of Applied Technology	<p>This act changes the name of the Tennessee Technology Centers to the Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology – <i>location</i> (i.e. – Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Knoxville). The appropriations bill earmarked \$50,300 from TBR appropriations to cover the costs of the name change, such as sign changes, brochure changes, etc.</p> <p>Attached is the new logo for the Colleges of Applied Technology.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>
Public Chapter 174 TBR Policy 4:01:01:30-State School Bond Authority Appropriation Intercept Program	<p>This act amends the Tennessee State School Bond Authority Act.</p> <p>Under previous law:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Each individual state university and community college of the Tennessee Board of Regents system was deemed its own “institution” for the purposes of the Tennessee state school bond authority. <p>Under this legislation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The full credit of the Tennessee Board of Regents is put behind every institutional bond issue made through the school bond authority. (2) This act results in expanding the bonding capacity of some institutions that were approaching their bonding limits. <p>Attached is TBR Business and Finance Policy 4:01:01:30 adopted at the June 2013 TBR Board meeting related to this act entitled, “Tennessee State School Bond Authority Appropriation Intercept program.”</p> <p><i>This legislation becomes effective upon passage.</i></p>
BUSINESS	
Public Chapter 250	<p>This act allows the state to assess a fee of 4.52% to certain hospitals’ net revenue. Fifty million of the assessment fee is allocated for graduate medical education, from which East Tennessee State University and its students benefit along with other medical schools in the state.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>
Public Chapter 345 New Public Higher Education Fee Discount form for Children of Licensed Public School Teachers and Children of State Employees	<p>This act provides that children of retired teachers to receive a 25% tuition discount at any state-operated institution of higher education in the state of Tennessee. The recipients of this discount must be under 24 years of age, and their parent must have at least 30 years of full-time creditable service to Tennessee public schools.</p> <p>Attached is the 2013 tuition discount form that should be used to process the tuition discount for children of children of licensed public school teachers and children of state employees.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>

BUSINESS

[Public Chapter 429](#)

All institutions of higher education are required to file a report on the accounting of student activity fees with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. These reports will be given on an annual basis.

The higher education commission will then publish a financial disclosure statement for student activity fees within the Postsecondary Education Fact Book. This disclosure statement will account for student activity fees on a campus-by-campus basis, and will include the following:

- (1) Number of undergraduate and graduate students enrolled
- (2) Source of student activity fees according to the number of students enrolled as undergraduate or graduate students
- (3) The expenditure of student activity fees
- (4) Funds not expended during the disclosure period

This requirement applies only to public institutions of higher learning that are operated under the Board of Regents or the University of Tennessee system.

Effective July 1, 2013

COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND COLLEGES OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

[Public Chapter 98](#)

This act creates an endowment fund to foster the creation of a need-based grant program for the completion of an associate's degree or certificate from a public, two-year postsecondary institution. All money deposited in this endowment fund will go towards this grant program. It will provide need-based financial aid to recipients. Financial need will be calculated based on a variety of factors including household income, assets, and family size. Awards made through this grant program will be applied to the recipients' costs of attendance. The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation will administer the grant, which may result in approximately \$1.2-\$2 million a year for the program. The bill was signed in a public ceremony at Chattanooga State Community College on July 11, 2013, with the Governor, several members of the General Assembly, students of Chattanooga State and President Catanzaro.

This legislation becomes effective upon passage

COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND COLLEGES OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

[Public Chapter 338](#)

This act creates the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP). The purpose of this program is to enable students in Tennessee colleges of applied technology and community colleges to receive employment training and attain industry-recognized post-secondary credentials for “sustaining gainful and quality employment in this state and to enable students to more adequately meet the advanced technical training needs required by current and future employers...”

The LEAP program seeks to provide students at the colleges of applied technology and community colleges with an opportunity to combine occupational training in a high-skill or high-technology industry with academic credit and to apply that towards attaining a post-secondary education credential. A student’s earnings in a cooperative education program shall not be included in the determination of the student’s eligibility for any state financial assistance or grants. Subject to TBR, a college of applied technology or community college may establish a LEAP program. Credit transferability through a LEAP program is required in accordance with transfer pathways and accreditation requirements.

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is tasked to work with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development and Economic and Community Development in order to develop and implement a labor education alignment program. The higher education commission will then encourage colleges of applied technology and community colleges to implement their own programs.

A labor education alignment program will be designed to include:

- (1) Career preparation and guidance incorporated in the curriculum;
- (2) Job placement and retention support services;
- (3) Integration of basic skills and work-readiness with occupational skills training; and
- (4) Actual/simulated learning at a worksite.

The curriculum is to incorporate training for industries that promote high-skill jobs in the following industries include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Advanced manufacturing;
- (2) Electronics;
- (3) Information technology;
- (4) Infrastructure engineering; and
- (5) Transportation and logistics.

The curriculum and related resource materials to assist educators, employers, and students for LEAP programs will be developed by TBR faculty with input from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Subject to annual appropriations the General Assembly, the Department of Economic and Community Development in consultation with TBR and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission may provide funding for grants to establish LEAP programs at colleges of applied technology or community colleges where advanced training opportunities or a highly-skilled workforce is lacking. No funding for the establishment of LEAP programs was allocated in the 2013-14 budget. Randy Boyd, the Governor’s advisor on higher education has initiated a LEAP planning group on which TBR is represented.

This legislation is effective upon passage.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND COLLEGES OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY

<p>Public Chapter 473</p> <p>Logo for Colleges of Applied Technology</p>	<p>This act changes the name of the Tennessee Technology Centers to the Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology – <i>location</i> (i.e. – Tennessee College of Applied Technology – Knoxville). The appropriations bill earmarked \$50,300 from TBR appropriations to cover the costs of the name change, such as sign changes, brochure changes, etc.</p> <p>Attached is the new logo for the Colleges of Applied Technology.</p> <p><i>Effective July 1, 2013</i></p>
GOVERNANCE	
<p>Public Chapter 185</p>	<p>This act exempts certain non-profit, regionally accredited institutions of higher education from the oversight of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission if the following qualification are met:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) It offers an online, competency-based education to adult students(2) It is led by a chief executive or chancellor domiciled in Tennessee(3) It operates within the scope of a memorandum of understanding executed with the state of Tennessee in the year 2013 <p>Specifically, this act exempts Western Governors University Tennessee from oversight by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. The 2013-14 state budget provided a \$5 million state allocation to establish West Governor’s University Tennessee.</p> <p>http://tennessee.wgu.edu.</p> <p><i>This legislation is effective upon passage.</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 82</p>	<p>Under previous law:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The Tennessee Higher Education Commission was set to terminate on June 30, 2012 <p>Under this act:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The existence of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission is extended through June 30, 2014 <p><i>This legislation is effective upon passage</i></p>

LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP AND NEED-BASED AID

<p>Public Chapter 98</p>	<p>This act creates an endowment fund to foster the creation of a need-based grant program for the completion of an associate’s degree or certificate from a public, two-year postsecondary institution. All money deposited in this endowment fund will go towards this grant program. It will provide need-based financial aid to recipients. Financial need will be calculated based on a variety of factors including household income, assets, and family size. Awards made through this grant program will be applied to the recipients’ costs of attendance. The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation will administer the grant, which may result in approximately \$1.2-\$2 million a year for the program. The bill was signed in a public ceremony at Chattanooga State Community College on July 11, 2013, with the Governor, several members of the General Assembly, students of Chattanooga State and President Catanzaro.</p> <p><i>This legislation becomes effective upon passage</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 361</p>	<p>This act allows a student who is a home-schooled his/her senior year of high school to be eligible for the Tennessee HOPE scholarship if the standard academic and residency requirements are met. Under previous legislation a home-schooled student was required to be home schooled for the student’s final two years of high school in order to be considered eligible for a HOPE scholarship.</p> <p><i>This legislation is effective upon passage. It is applicable to students applying for postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2013-2014 academic year and academic years thereafter.</i></p>
<p>Public Chapter 428</p>	<p>This act enables dependent children of headquarters staff employees who are on full-time work assignment in a foreign country to be eligible for the Tennessee lottery scholarship as an entering freshman.</p> <p>These students will be eligible for the HOPE scholarship under the following conditions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) The “dependent child” must be claimed by their parent for federal tax purposes, must be under 21 years old, and must reside in a foreign nation only while their parent is on full-time work assignment as a headquarters staff employee.(2) The student must not live in Tennessee immediately before the date of application for financial aid while the parent is on full-time work assignment in a foreign nation.(3) The student must have graduated from a regionally accredited high school of that particular foreign nation or completed home school there.(4) This only applied to dependent children of headquarters staff employees whose full-time work assignments last longer than one year and who were Tennessee residents prior to their departure. These headquarters staff employees must plan to return to Tennessee upon completion of their full-time work assignment. <p><i>This legislation is effective upon passage and is applicable to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for the 2013-2014 academic year and years thereafter.</i></p>

LOTTERY SCHOLARSHIP AND NEED-BASED AID

[Public Chapter 483](#)

This act creates the STEP UP scholarship program for postsecondary education students with intellectual disabilities with the following provisions:

- (1) “Eligibly postsecondary education program” is defined, for the purposes of this section of the TCA, as a program recognized by the Postsecondary Educational Alliance that assists students with intellectual disabilities who have completed high school and provides a two-year individualized program of study;
- (2) A listing of the requirements that must be met in order to be eligible for a STEP UP scholarship in addition to the student having a documented intellectual disability; and
- (3) A listing of the requirements that must be met for a student to continue to be eligible for a STEP UP scholarship after they have already received it one year.

Students may receive the STEP UP scholarship for two years. If a student receiving the scholarship has an approved medical or personal leave from their postsecondary education program, he/she may continue to receive the STEP UP scholarship when they resume their education. These students are still eligible to receive the full two years of the scholarship, provided that all other qualifications are met.

The amount of a Tennessee STEP UP scholarship will be equivalent to the amount of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, which is awarded at four-year postsecondary institutions.

If the total sum of all financial aid awarded to a student, including the STEP UP scholarship, is greater than the cost of attendance for their particular postsecondary institution, the STEP UP scholarship award amount will be reduced so that the total amount of financial aid will not exceed cost of attendance.

The University of Memphis, University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Vanderbilt University currently have special programs designed for this group of students. Each program is anticipated to receive sixteen (16) scholarship slots per year for a total of 48 scholarships statewide.

This legislation is effective upon passage. It is applicable to students initially entering postsecondary education programs in the 2013-2014 academic year and academic years thereafter.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

[Public Chapter 16](#)

[Legal Guidance
from TBR General
Counsel](#)

This act determines it is not a crime for the holder of a valid handgun carry permit recognized in Tennessee to transport and store a firearm and ammunition in that permit holder's privately owned motor vehicle if the firearm is kept from ordinary observation and the firearm is locked within the trunk, glove box, or interior of the that motor vehicle or a container securely affixed to that vehicle when the permit holder is not in the vehicle. The vehicle must also be properly parked.

Public Chapter 16 **DOES NOT** affect TBR or institution policies prohibiting the possession of weapons, including firearms, by employees and students. TBR Personnel Guideline P-085, which prohibits the possession of weapons, including firearms, by employees and TBR Policy 3:02:001 II. B. 8, which prohibits the possession of weapons by students, are still in effect, as are any similar institutional policies or guidelines. Consequently, while it may no longer be a crime for a student or employee possessing a valid handgun carry permit to have a firearm in his or her privately owned vehicle, under the conditions required by PC 16, **IT IS STILL A VIOLATION OF TBR and/or INSTITUTION POLICY.**

Attached is the July 17, 2013, guidance from the TBR General Counsel. The guidance provides: an explanation of Public Chapter 16; a guide for enforcement of current statutes and policies relative to possession of firearms on campus; and the recommended no weapon's sign to utilize on campuses in accordance with the relevant statutes.

Effective July 1, 2013

STUDENT AFFAIRS

[Public Chapter 283](#)

[Current TBR policy
3:01:01:00](#)

[Legal Counsel
Guidance on
Implementation of
Public Chapter 283](#)

This act provides for special statutory treatment for student organizations of a religious nature on public higher education campuses. Under this act:

- (1) No state institution of higher education that recognizes student organizations may discriminate against or deny recognition to any student organization (or deny any organization access to programs, funding, or facilities available to other student organizations) based upon the religious content of the organization's speech;
- (2) Student organizations cannot be discriminated against based upon the religious content of their worship; and
- (3) A religious student organization can deny membership to any student who does not possess the same religious beliefs as the organization does.

TBR policy 3:01:01:00, Subject: Student Organizations, Part III, item (3), currently says, "no student organization shall deny membership to any person on the basis of age, race, sex, religion, handicap or national origin, provided that social fraternities and sororities may have sex restricted membership." Part IV, item (1) states that, "any proposed student organization shall be open to all students of the institution or school who otherwise meet membership requirements." (see attached policy)

Attached is the July 24, 2013, TBR General Counsel's guidance for implementing this act.

Effective July 1, 2013.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

[Public Chapter 88](#)

Public Chapter 88 creates the “Skills for Jobs Act.” It requires the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, in conjunction with the Department of Labor, to produce an annual report concerning state workforce needs projections.

The report must contain:

- (1) the state’s anticipated workforce needs and the number of degrees, certificates, and any other credentials that public or private institutions of higher education expect to issue to students;
- (2) the number of degrees or certificates expected to be issued by high school career and technical programs;
- (3) any workforce needs that do not seem to be met by education programs in Tennessee; and
- (4) public and private institutions that may meet these projected workforce needs.

The report will be given to the Education committees of both the Tennessee House of Representative and the Senate, the Business and Utilities Committee of the House of Representatives, the Commerce and Labor Committee of the Senate, and the Governor.

The Tennessee Board of Regents system, the University of Tennessee system, and the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association will receive this report as well.

This legislation is effective upon passage.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

[Public Chapter 338](#)

This act creates the Labor Education Alignment Program (LEAP). The purpose of this program is to enable students in Tennessee colleges of applied technology and community colleges to receive employment training and attain industry-recognized post-secondary credentials for “sustaining gainful and quality employment in this state and to enable students to more adequately meet the advanced technical training needs required by current and future employers...”

The LEAP program seeks to provide students at the colleges of applied technology and community colleges with an opportunity to combine occupational training in a high-skill or high-technology industry with academic credit and to apply that towards attaining a post-secondary education credential. A student’s earnings in a cooperative education program shall not be included in the determination of the student’s eligibility for any state financial assistance or grants. Subject to TBR, a college of applied technology or community college may establish a LEAP program. Credit transferability through a LEAP program is required in accordance with transfer pathways and accreditation requirements.

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission is tasked to work with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development and Economic and Community Development in order to develop and implement a labor education alignment program. The higher education commission will then encourage colleges of applied technology and community colleges to implement their own programs.

A labor education alignment program will be designed to include:

- (5) Career preparation and guidance incorporated in the curriculum;
- (6) Job placement and retention support services;
- (7) Integration of basic skills and work-readiness with occupational skills training; and
- (8) Actual/simulated learning at a worksite.

The curriculum is to incorporate training for industries that promote high-skill jobs in the following industries include, but are not limited to:

- (6) Advanced manufacturing;
- (7) Electronics;
- (8) Information technology;
- (9) Infrastructure engineering; and
- (10) Transportation and logistics.

The curriculum and related resources materials to assist educators, employers, and students for LEAP programs will be developed by TBR faculty with input from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. Subject to annual appropriations the General Assembly, the Department of Economic and Community Development in consultation with TBR and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission may provide funding for grants to establish LEAP programs at colleges of applied technology or community colleges where advanced training opportunities or a highly-skilled workforce is lacking. No funding for the establishment of LEAP programs was allocated in the 2013-14 budget. Randy Boyd, the Governor’s Special Advisor on Higher Education has initiated a LEAP planning group on which TBR is represented.

This legislation is effective upon passage.