

Subject Hours of Instruction Requirements

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Date February 19, 2024

Overview

Minnesota students must satisfy state and local academic standards and complete a minimum number of credits to graduate from a public high school. A “credit” is defined in Minnesota Statutes, section 120B.018 as “the determination by the local school district that a student has successfully completed an academic year of study or mastered the applicable subject matter.” A high school must provide students with at least 1,020 hours of instruction each year.

This bill would allow hours of instruction to include hours when a student is actively engaged in the district’s educational process, and would allow districts to award credit based on the student’s mastery of the subject rather than the number of hours of instruction in the subject the student has received.

Summary

Section	Description
1	Length of school year; hours of instruction. States that for high school students, “hours of instruction” includes all hours that a school determines a student is actively engaged in the educational process of the district.
2	Credit. Prohibits awarding credit based solely on seat time or hours of instruction requirements.
3	Personalized, competency-based education. Defines “personalized, competency-based education” as a system of learning with specific characteristics.

Section	Description
4	Graduation requirements. Requires credit requirements to be satisfied based on mastery and not exclusively on hours of instruction.
5	Appropriation; competency-based education. Appropriates an unspecified amount for grants to encourage districts, charter schools, area learning centers, and Tribal contract or grant schools to develop criteria around personalized, competency-based education requirements.



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