



HOUSE BILL 56: Arts Education Requirement.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 18, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Elmore, Johnson, Carney	Prepared by:	Samantha Yarborough* Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *HB 56 would direct the State Board of Education to require one arts education credit for graduation from high school beginning with students entering the sixth grade in 2022.*

CURRENT LAW: Under G.S. 115C-12(9c), the State Board of Education (SBE) has the authority to develop and mandate content standards and the standard course of study. For 9th graders entering in 2014-2015 and later, the Future-Ready Core Course of Study requires 22 credits for graduation which include the following:

- 4 Mathematics credits
- 4 sequential English credits
- 4 Social Studies credits
- 3 Science credits
- 1 Health and Physical Education credit
- 6 Electives credits
 - 2 elective credits of any combination of career and technical education, arts education, or world languages
 - 4 elective credits constituting a concentration recommended from 1 of the following: career and technical education, JROTC, arts education, or any other subject area or cross-disciplinary courses

Local school administrative units (LEAs) may add additional requirements.

The North Carolina Arts Education Essential Standards provide a comprehensive framework for each of the arts disciplines (dance, music, theatre arts, and visual arts) in the public schools.

In North Carolina, licensure is available for all four disciplines of arts education. G.S. 115C-269.20 specifically provides that elementary education teacher education preparation programs include instruction in integration of arts education across the curriculum.

BILL ANALYSIS: HB 56 would direct the SBE to modify the State graduation requirements to include one credit in arts education to be completed by each student at any time in grades six through 12. The requirement would begin with students entering the 6th grade in 2022.

The SBE would have to include an exemption from the arts education graduation requirement for a student transferring into a North Carolina public school in the 9th grade or later, if the requirement would prevent the student from graduating with the cohort to which the student was assigned when transferring.

The SBE would also be required to do the following:

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- Establish procedures and a timeline for the phased-in implementation of the arts education graduation requirement.
- Establish the minimum criteria to meet the arts education graduation requirement.
- Report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by December 15, 2022 on the following:
 - Statewide implementation of the comprehensive arts education (arts education, arts integration, and arts exposure)
 - The graduation requirement required in this act

EFFECTIVE DATE: The bill would become effective when it becomes law.

**Drupti Chauhan, Staff Attorney, substantially contributed to this summary.*