



# SENATE BILL 125: Various Education Changes.

2025-2026 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Higher Education. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	June 11, 2025
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Lee, Corbin, Jones	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Samantha Yarborough
<b>Analysis of:</b>	PCS to First Edition S125-CSBN-10		Committee Counsel

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 125 would reorganize Chapter 115D of the General Statutes and make necessary conforming changes.*

**The PCS would also allow certain nonpublic schools to request residency licenses for teachers and extend the reversion date for school safety grant funds.**

## PARTS I and II: REORGANIZATION OF CHAPTER 115D AND CONFORMING CHANGES

**CURRENT LAW:** Chapter 115D of the General Statutes governs the North Carolina Community Colleges System.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Part I of Senate Bill 125 reorganizes Chapter 115D as follows:

- Breaks Article 1, "General Provisions for State Administration," into four parts: 1. Establishment and Administration of the North Carolina Community Colleges System, 2. Administration of Local Community Colleges by State Board of Community Colleges, 3. Community College Programs, and 4. Students.
- Creates a new Article 2B, "High School Programs."
- Breaks Article 3, "Financial Support," into two parts: 1. Funding of Community Colleges and 2. Tuition and Fees.
- Repeals and recodifies statutes to place them in the appropriate Article and Part.

Part II makes the necessary conforming changes to reflect the reorganization of Chapter 115D.

## PART III: RESIDENCY LICENSES FOR CERTAIN NONPUBLIC EC TEACHERS

**CURRENT LAW:** A residency license is a one-year teaching license that can be renewed twice. G.S. 115C-270.20(a)(5) authorizes the governing body of a public school unit to request a residency license for an individual if the individual meets all of the following requirements:

- Holds a bachelor's degree or advanced degree.
- Has completed coursework related to the requested licensure area or has passed a related content examination.
- Is enrolled in a recognized educator preparation program.

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# Senate 125 PCS

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Parts 1 and 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes establish the requirements that nonpublic schools, excluding home schools, must meet.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** In addition to the governing body of a public school unit, Part III would authorize certain nonpublic schools to request a residency license. The nonpublic school would be authorized to request a residency license if it meets both of the following:

- Meets the nonpublic school requirements in either Part 1 or Part 2 of Article 39 of Chapter 115C of the General Statutes.
- Is approved and monitored by the Department of Public Instruction to provide special education and related services pursuant to a student's individualized education program (IEP).

Part III would be effective when it becomes law and apply to applications for residency licenses occurring on or after that date.

## **PART IV: EXTEND REVERSION DATE FOR SCHOOL SAFETY GRANT FUNDS**

**CURRENT LAW:** Section 7.36 of S.L. 2023-134, as amended by Sections 3J.12 and 3J.17(h) of S.L. 2024-57, provides funding for the School Safety Grants Program to improve safety in public school units by providing grants for services for students in crisis, school safety training, safety equipment in schools, and subsidizing the School Resource Officer Grants Program through an application process administered by the Executive Director of the Center for Safer Schools. The funds appropriated for the School Safety Grants Program revert to the General Fund on June 30, 2025.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Part IV would extend the reversion date for the funds appropriated for the School Safety Grants Program to June 30, 2027.

Part IV would become effective June 30, 2025.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Except as otherwise provided, Senate Bill 125 would be effective when it becomes law.