

HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL 136

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGHER EDUCATION; REQUIRING STANDARDIZED PLACEMENT  
TESTS IN ENGLISH AND MATHEMATICS FOR PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS; PROVIDING THAT DEVELOPMENTAL  
COURSEWORK MAY BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO GRADUATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. STANDARDIZED PLACEMENT TESTS.--

A. The commission on higher education, in  
consultation with academic officers of two- and four-year  
public post-secondary educational institutions, shall develop  
or adopt standardized placement tests for English and  
mathematics requirements that will be used by all public post-  
secondary educational institutions for course placement of  
entering freshmen. The commission on higher education shall  
ensure that the placement tests are included in the alignment

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1 of high school curricula and post-secondary standardized  
2 placement tests, pursuant to Section 22-13-1.2 NMSA 1978.

3 B. If a high school student intends to pursue post-  
4 secondary education or training as reflected in the student's  
5 next-step plan pursuant to Section 22-13-1.1 NMSA 1978, the  
6 student shall take a commission on higher education-adopted  
7 standardized post-secondary placement test during grade eleven  
8 administered by a two-year or four-year educational  
9 institution; provided that no student shall be required to  
10 participate who provides to the appropriate school official a  
11 written waiver of participation signed by the student's parent.  
12 A student is not precluded from taking or retaking any tests to  
13 determine course placement.

14 C. The two- and four-year post-secondary  
15 educational institutions shall provide that the test results of  
16 a student who takes the test are transferred to the public  
17 school that the student is attending prior to the end of grade  
18 eleven. If the score in English or mathematics indicates that  
19 the student will be required to take developmental coursework  
20 as a prerequisite to entry into freshman-level post-secondary  
21 English or mathematics courses, the high school shall provide  
22 the student the required developmental coursework or its  
23 equivalent prior to graduation. The high school shall provide  
24 a written notice to the student and the student's parent  
25 explaining the academic necessity for the developmental

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1 coursework.

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