

**74-32,140. Community colleges; supervision and coordination; powers, duties and functions of boards of trustees preserved.** (a) On July 1, 1999, the community colleges established and existing under the laws of this state shall be and hereby are transferred from the supervision of the state board of education to supervision and coordination by the state board of regents. The community colleges shall continue to be operated, managed and controlled by locally elected boards of trustees. The state board of regents shall exercise such supervision and coordination of the operation, management and control of community colleges as may be prescribed by law.

(b) On July 1, 1999, all of the powers, duties, functions, records and property of the state board of education relating to community college operations shall be and are hereby transferred to and conferred and imposed upon the state board of regents.

(c) On and after July 1, 1999, the state board of regents shall be the successor in every way to the powers, duties and functions of the state board of education relating to community college operations in which the same were vested prior to the effective date of this act. Every act performed by the state board of regents shall be deemed to have the same force and effect as if performed by the state board of education in which such functions were vested prior to July 1, 1999.

(d) On and after July 1, 1999, whenever the state board of education, or words of like effect, is referred to or designated by a statute, contract or other document relating to community college operations, such reference or designation shall be deemed to apply to the state board of regents.

(e) All rules and regulations, and all orders and directives of the state board of education relating to community college operations which are in existence on July 1, 1999, shall continue to be effective and shall be deemed to be the duly adopted rules and regulations or orders and directives of the state board of regents until revised, amended, revoked or nullified pursuant to law.

(f) The unexpended balance of any appropriation for and any funds available to the state board of education for purposes relating to community college operations shall be transferred to the state board of regents on July 1, 1999.

(g) On and after July 1, 1999, all books, records and papers of the board of trustees of each community college shall be open and available, at all reasonable times, to the state board of regents and its designated officers, employees and agents.

(h) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this act, the transfer of supervision of the community colleges from the state board of education to supervision and coordination by the state board of regents shall not be construed in any manner so as to change or affect the operation, management and control of any community college or to change or affect any existing power, duty or function of a board of trustees with respect to such operation, management and control.

**History:** L. 1999, ch. 147, § 20; L. 2000, ch. 86, § 7; April 20.