

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2019 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 989 (Senator Carozza, *et al.*)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Public Schools - Fundamentals of Construction - Elective Course**

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This bill authorizes a local board of education to offer an elective course in fundamentals of construction in its schools. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None. The bill is directed at local school boards.

**Local Effect:** None. Any fiscal impact will depend on local choices.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/ Background:** Maryland's career and technology education (CTE) programs fall under 10 career clusters, which are groupings of interrelated occupations. Construction and development is 1 of the 10 career clusters. As part of that cluster there are the following three programs:

- construction: design and management;
- construction: maintenance; and
- construction: trades.

Additional information about each of the programs can be found in the [Maryland High School Career and Technology Education Programs of Study](#) booklet published October 2017.

Each of the local school systems offer at least one program from the construction and development career cluster.

According to regulations, to be awarded a high school diploma, a student must be enrolled in a Maryland public school system and have earned a minimum of 21 credits in specified subjects. Successful completion of a CTE program is one pathway to complete the credit requirements for a high school diploma, the two other pathways are: (1) 2 credits of world language, which may include American Sign Language; or (2) 2 credits of advanced technology education.

According to regulations, elective programs and instruction must be developed at the discretion of the local school system, open to enrollment for all students, and must focus on in-depth study in required subject areas, exploration, or application and integration of what has been learned.

**Local Expenditures:** The bill authorizes a local board of education to offer an elective course in fundamentals of construction in its schools. Any fiscal impact will depend on local choices. If a local school system chooses to offer such a class, its expenditures may increase. Alternatively, a local school system may choose to offer fundamentals of construction instead of an existing class.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** HB 1134 (Delegate Rose, *et al.*) - Ways and Means.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland State Department of Education; Baltimore City Public Schools; Montgomery County Public Schools; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 15, 2019  
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