

18415 Sec. 401. Section 10-266aa of the general statutes is repealed and the
18416 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):

18417 (a) As used in this section:

18418 (1) "Receiving district" means any school district that accepts students
18419 under the program established pursuant to this section;

18420 (2) "Sending district" means any school district that sends students it
18421 would otherwise be legally responsible for educating to another school
18422 district under the program; and

18423 (3) "Minority students" means students who are "pupils of racial
18424 minorities", as defined in section 10-226a.

18425 (b) There is established, within available appropriations, an
18426 interdistrict public school attendance program. The purpose of the
18427 program shall be to: (1) Improve academic achievement; (2) reduce
18428 racial, ethnic and economic isolation or preserve racial and ethnic
18429 balance; and (3) provide a choice of educational programs. The
18430 Department of Education shall provide oversight for the program,
18431 including the setting of reasonable limits for the transportation of
18432 students participating in the program, and may provide for the
18433 incremental expansion of the program for the school year commencing
18434 in 2000 for each town required to participate in the program pursuant
18435 to subsection (c) of this section.

18436 (c) The program shall be phased in as provided in this subsection. (1)
18437 For the school year commencing in 1998, and for each school year
18438 thereafter, the program shall be in operation in the Hartford, New
18439 Haven and Bridgeport regions. The Hartford program shall operate as
18440 a continuation of the program described in section 10-266j. Students
18441 who reside in Hartford, New Haven or Bridgeport may attend school in
18442 another school district in the region and students who reside in such
18443 other school districts may attend school in Hartford, New Haven or
18444 Bridgeport, provided, beginning with the 2001-2002 school year, the

18445 proportion of students who are not minority students to the total
18446 number of students leaving Hartford, Bridgeport or New Haven to
18447 participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
18448 students who were not minority students in the prior school year to the
18449 total number of students enrolled in Hartford, Bridgeport or New
18450 Haven in the prior school year. The regional educational service center
18451 operating the program shall make program participation decisions in
18452 accordance with the requirements of this subdivision. (2) For the school
18453 year commencing in 2000, and for each school year thereafter, the
18454 program shall be in operation in New London, provided beginning with
18455 the 2001-2002 school year, the proportion of students who are not
18456 minority students to the total number of students leaving New London
18457 to participate in the program shall not be greater than the proportion of
18458 students who were not minority students in the prior year to the total
18459 number of students enrolled in New London in the prior school year.
18460 The regional educational service center operating the program shall
18461 make program participation decisions in accordance with this
18462 subdivision. (3) The Department of Education may provide, within
18463 available appropriations, grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2003,
18464 to the remaining regional educational service centers to assist school
18465 districts in planning for a voluntary program of student enrollment in
18466 every priority school district, pursuant to section 10-266p, which is
18467 interested in participating in accordance with this subdivision. For the
18468 school year commencing in 2003, and for each school year thereafter, the
18469 voluntary enrollment program may be in operation in every priority
18470 school district in the state. Students from other school districts in the
18471 area of a priority school district, as determined by the regional
18472 educational service center pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, may
18473 attend school in the priority school district, provided such students
18474 bring racial, ethnic and economic diversity to the priority school district
18475 and do not increase the racial, ethnic and economic isolation in the
18476 priority school district. (4) For the school year commencing July 1, 2022,
18477 there shall be a pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk.
18478 The pilot program shall serve (A) up to fifty students who reside in

18479 Danbury, and such students may attend school in the school districts for
18480 the towns of New Fairfield, Brookfield, Bethel, Ridgefield and Redding,
18481 and (B) up to fifty students who reside in Norwalk, and such students
18482 may attend school in the school districts for the towns of Darien, New
18483 Canaan, Wilton, Weston and Westport. School districts which receive
18484 students from Danbury and Norwalk under the pilot program during
18485 the school year commencing July 1, 2022, shall allow such students to
18486 attend school in the district until they graduate from high school.

18487 (d) School districts which received students from New London under
18488 the program during the [2000-2001] school year commencing July 1,
18489 2000, shall allow such students to attend school in the district until they
18490 graduate from high school. The attendance of such students in such
18491 program shall not be supported by grants pursuant to subsections (f)
18492 and (g) of this section but shall be supported, in the same amounts as
18493 provided for in said subsections, by interdistrict cooperative grants
18494 pursuant to section 10-74d to the regional educational service centers
18495 operating such programs.

18496 (e) Once the program is in operation in the region served by a
18497 regional educational service center pursuant to subsection (c) of this
18498 section, the Department of Education shall provide an annual grant to
18499 such regional educational service center to assist school districts in its
18500 area in administering the program and to provide staff to assist students
18501 participating in the program to make the transition to a new school and
18502 to act as a liaison between the parents of such students and the new
18503 school district. Each regional educational service center shall determine
18504 which school districts in its area are located close enough to a priority
18505 school district to make participation in the program feasible in terms of
18506 student transportation pursuant to subsection (f) of this section,
18507 provided any student participating in the program prior to July 1, 1999,
18508 shall be allowed to continue to attend the same school such student
18509 attended prior to said date in the receiving district until the student
18510 completes the highest grade in such school. If there are more students
18511 who seek to attend school in a receiving district than there are spaces

18512 available, the regional educational service center shall assist the school
18513 district in determining attendance by the use of a lottery or lotteries
18514 designed to preserve or increase racial, ethnic and economic diversity,
18515 except that the regional educational service center shall give preference
18516 to siblings and to students who would otherwise attend a school that
18517 has lost its accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and
18518 Colleges or has been identified as in need of improvement pursuant to
18519 the No Child Left Behind Act, P.L. 107-110. The admission policies shall
18520 be consistent with section 10-15c and this section. No receiving district
18521 shall recruit students under the program for athletic or extracurricular
18522 purposes. Each receiving district shall allow out-of-district students it
18523 accepts to attend school in the district until they graduate from high
18524 school.

18525 (f) The Department of Education shall provide grants to regional
18526 educational service centers or local or regional boards of education for
18527 the reasonable cost of transportation for students participating in the
18528 program. For the fiscal [years ending June 30, 2015, to June 30, 2017,
18529 inclusive] year ending June 30, 2022, and each fiscal year thereafter, the
18530 department shall provide such grants within available appropriations,
18531 provided the state-wide average of such grants does not exceed an
18532 amount equal to three thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each
18533 student transported, except that the Commissioner of Education may
18534 grant to regional educational service centers or local or regional boards
18535 of education additional sums from funds remaining in the
18536 appropriation for such transportation services if needed to offset
18537 transportation costs that exceed such maximum amount. The regional
18538 educational service centers shall provide reasonable transportation
18539 services to high school students who wish to participate in supervised
18540 extracurricular activities. For purposes of this section, the number of
18541 students transported shall be determined on October first of each fiscal
18542 year.

18543 (g) (1) Except as provided in [subdivision] subdivisions (2) and (3) of
18544 this subsection, the Department of Education shall provide, within

18545 available appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board
18546 of education for each receiving district in an amount not to exceed two
18547 thousand five hundred dollars for each out-of-district student who
18548 attends school in the receiving district under the program.

18549 (2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2013, and each fiscal year
18550 thereafter, the department shall provide, within available
18551 appropriations, an annual grant to the local or regional board of
18552 education for each receiving district if one of the following conditions
18553 are met as follows: (A) Three thousand dollars for each out-of-district
18554 student who attends school in the receiving district under the program
18555 if the number of such out-of-district students is less than two per cent of
18556 the total student population of such receiving district, (B) four thousand
18557 dollars for each out-of-district student who attends school in the
18558 receiving district under the program if the number of such out-of-
18559 district students is greater than or equal to two per cent but less than
18560 three per cent of the total student population of such receiving district,
18561 (C) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who attends
18562 school in the receiving district under the program if the number of such
18563 out-of-district students is greater than or equal to three per cent but less
18564 than four per cent of the total student population of such receiving
18565 district, (D) six thousand dollars for each out-of-district student who
18566 attends school in the receiving district under the program if the
18567 Commissioner of Education determines that the receiving district has an
18568 enrollment of greater than four thousand students and has increased the
18569 number of students in the program by at least fifty per cent from the
18570 previous fiscal year, or (E) eight thousand dollars for each out-of-district
18571 student who attends school in the receiving district under the program
18572 if the number of such out-of-district students is greater than or equal to
18573 four per cent of the total student population of such receiving district.

18574 (3) (A) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, the department shall
18575 provide a grant to the local or regional board of education for each
18576 receiving district described in subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this
18577 section in an amount of four thousand dollars for each out-of-district

18578 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the
18579 receiving district under the pilot program.

18580 (B) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, and each fiscal year
18581 thereafter, the department shall provide an annual grant to the local or
18582 regional board of education for each receiving district described in
18583 subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section for each out-of-district
18584 student who resides in Danbury or Norwalk and attends school in the
18585 receiving district under the pilot program in accordance with the
18586 provisions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.

18587 (C) Not later than January 1, 2025, the department shall submit a
18588 report on the pilot program in operation in Danbury and Norwalk,
18589 pursuant to subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, to the joint
18590 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
18591 matters relating to education and appropriations, in accordance with the
18592 provisions of section 11-4a. Such report shall include, but need not be
18593 limited to, the total number of students participating in the pilot
18594 program, the number of students from each town participating in the
18595 pilot program, the total amount of the grant paid under the pilot
18596 program and the amount of the grant paid to each town participating in
18597 the pilot program.

18598 [(3)] (4) Each town which receives funds pursuant to this subsection
18599 shall make such funds available to its local or regional board of
18600 education in supplement to any other local appropriation, other state or
18601 federal grant or other revenue to which the local or regional board of
18602 education is entitled.

18603 (h) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter, each sending
18604 district and each receiving district shall divide the number of children
18605 participating in the program who reside in such district or attend school
18606 in such district by two for purposes of the counts for subdivision (22) of
18607 section 10-262f and subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 10-261.

18608 (i) In the case of an out-of-district student who requires special

18609 education and related services, the sending district shall pay the
18610 receiving district an amount equal to the difference between the
18611 reasonable cost of providing such special education and related services
18612 to such student and the amount received by the receiving district
18613 pursuant to subsection (g) of this section and in the case of students
18614 participating pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, the per pupil
18615 amount received pursuant to section 10-74d. The sending district shall
18616 be eligible for reimbursement pursuant to section 10-76g.

18617 (j) Nothing in this section shall prohibit school districts from charging
18618 tuition to other school districts that do not have a high school pursuant
18619 to section 10-33.

18620 (k) On or before March first of each year, the Commissioner of
18621 Education shall determine if the enrollment in the program pursuant to
18622 subsection (c) of this section for the fiscal year is below the number of
18623 students for which funds were appropriated. If the commissioner
18624 determines that the enrollment is below such number, the additional
18625 funds shall not lapse but shall be used by the commissioner in
18626 accordance with this subsection.

18627 (1) Any amount up to five hundred thousand dollars of such
18628 nonlapsing funds shall be used for supplemental grants to receiving
18629 districts on a pro rata basis for each out-of-district student in the
18630 program pursuant to subsection (c) of this section who attends the same
18631 school in the receiving district as at least nine other such out-of-district
18632 students, not to exceed one thousand dollars per student.

18633 (2) Any amount of such nonlapsing funds equal to or greater than
18634 five hundred thousand dollars, but less than one million dollars, shall
18635 be used for supplemental grants, in an amount determined by the
18636 commissioner, on a pro rata basis to receiving districts that report to the
18637 commissioner on or before March first of the current school year that the
18638 number of out-of-district students enrolled in such receiving district is
18639 greater than the number of out-of-district students enrolled in such

18640 receiving district from the previous school year.

18641 (3) Any remaining nonlapsing funds shall be used by the
18642 commissioner to increase enrollment in the interdistrict public school
18643 attendance program described in this section.

18644 (l) For purposes of the state-wide mastery examinations under
18645 section 10-14n, students participating in the program established
18646 pursuant to this section shall be considered residents of the school
18647 district in which they attend school.

18648 (m) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
18649 grants to regional education service centers which provide summer
18650 school educational programs approved by the commissioner to students
18651 participating in the program.

18652 (n) The Commissioner of Education may provide grants for children
18653 in the Hartford program described in this section to participate in
18654 preschool and all day kindergarten programs. In addition to the subsidy
18655 provided to the receiving district for educational services, such grants
18656 may be used for the provision of before and after-school care and
18657 remedial services for the preschool and kindergarten students
18658 participating in the program.

18659 (o) Within available appropriations, the commissioner may make
18660 grants for academic student support for programs pursuant to this
18661 section that assist the state in meeting [the goals of the 2008 stipulation
18662 and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v. William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended,
18663 or the goals of the 2013 stipulation and order for Milo Sheff, et al. v.
18664 William A. O'Neill, et al., as extended, as determined by the
18665 commissioner] its obligations pursuant to the decision in Sheff v.
18666 O'Neill, 238 Conn. 1 (1996), or any related stipulation or order in effect,
18667 as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

18668 Sec. 402. Section 10-17g of the general statutes is repealed and the
18669 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2021*):