

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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CHAPTER 115

ACADEMIES AND SEMINARIES

Sec.

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§ 1341. Conversion to free high schools

The trustees of any academy or other corporation formed for educational purposes may, by a majority vote of such of said trustees as reside in the State, surrender the whole or any part of the property belonging thereto to the municipal officers of any town, the school directors of any School Administrative District or the trustees of any school fund in any town in which said academy or corporation is situated, or to any community school district organized under the general law or by special law which includes the town where the said academy or corporation is situated, for turning the same into a free high school, and said municipal officers or trustees, for the time being, or said community school district or school directors shall be a board of trustees or trustee to take and hold said property for maintaining a free high school; and upon receiving said property, they or it shall use proper diligence to make the same produce income for the support of said free high school.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 122; 1955, c. 162, § 1; 1957, c. 364, § 65.

§ 1342. Conveyance of property

When the vote described in section 1341 is passed, the trustees mentioned in section 1341 shall convey, assign and deliver to the municipal officers of said town, or the trustees of the said school fund, or to the said community school district or School Administrative District, all property belonging to such academy or corporation for the purposes indicated by section 1341.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 123; 1955, c. 162, § 2; 1957, c. 364, § 66.

§ 1343. Income of property; qualifications of pupils; non-resident tuition

The town or community school district or School Administrative District accepting the property in trust, as named in section 1341, shall apply the income thereof towards the support of a free high school to serve the town where the said academy or corporation has been situated, within the requirements of the laws relating to the establishment and maintenance of free high schools, and provide suitable accommodations for the same. The superintending school committee in the said town, or the community school committee if a community school district or school directors if a School Administrative District, shall determine the qualifications necessary to entitle any applicant to enter or attend said free high school, and no one shall attend it without certificate of said officers to that effect.

All scholars residing within the said town, community school district or School Administrative District, having such certificate, may attend said school without tuition fee, and all scholars not residents of said town, community school district or School Administrative District, may attend said school upon such terms and conditions as said superintending school committee, community school committee or school directors may impose.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 124; 1955, c. 162, § 3; 1957, c. 364, § 67.

§ 1344. Academy defined; approval of instruction; reports

Wherever in sections 1344 to 1348, the word "academy" occurs, it shall be construed to include "seminary" or "institute."

When in the judgment of the commissioner, from returns made as provided, it appears that any incorporated academy in the State is prepared to give instruction equivalent to that required by law to be given in free high schools, that pupils attending the said academy are qualified to receive such instruction and that the teachers in the said academy are certified or licensed to give instruction in secondary school studies, such academy may provide approved secondary education under the conditions of sections 1291 and 1292. Every academy receiving state funds, either directly or indirectly, and every academy approved for tuition and attendance purposes shall annually, on or before the 15th day of July, report to the commissioner such information as may be required for the performance of his duties.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 125.

§ 1345. Regulations of state board

The state board may make such reasonable regulations regarding tuition charges, accounting and other aspects of academy and municipal relationships as are deemed necessary for carrying out the purposes and provisions of sections 1344 to 1348.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 126; 1955, c. 233, § 2.

§ 1346. Audit

Every academy, eligible to receive tuition payments from municipalities which are eligible for state subsidy aid under chapter 511, shall on or before September 1st of each year furnish to the State Auditor satisfactory proof that the books, accounts, financial documents and reports to the commissioner of said institution for the fiscal year preceding have been examined and found to be in a satisfactory and accurate condition with proper vouchers on file, said audit to be made by the State Department of Audit or by individuals or firms recognized as competent auditors by training and experience or by qualified public accountants.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 127; 1957, c. 364, § 68.

§ 1347. State Auditor or commissioner may cause audit

The State Auditor may cause an audit to be made of the books, accounts and financial documents of institutions mentioned in section 1346, which have or have not complied with said section, when requested to do so by 3 or more duly elected and qualified officers of said institution, said audit in all cases to be conducted at the expense of the institution. When in the opinion of the commissioner an audit is necessary, he shall request the State Auditor to cause such audit to be made, the audit in such instance to be at no expense to the institution in question.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 128.

§ 1348. Forfeiture of tuition payments

Academies which have not complied with sections 1344, 1346 or 1347 before the first day of September of each year shall not be eligible to receive tuition payments from municipalities receiving state subsidy under section 3723.

R.S.1954, c. 41, § 129; 1957, c. 443, § 22.