



MINNESOTA STATE

Concurrent Enrollment Update September 2016

Application for Implementation Extension to Higher Learning Commission

The Minnesota State system office is preparing one application on behalf of all Minnesota State colleges and universities for an extension of the September 1, 2017 compliance timeline for institutions to ensure concurrent enrollment instructors meet faculty qualifications standards. If the extension is granted, colleges and universities will be notified of their individual extension timelines that will allow up to an additional five years (to 2022) by which to meet the qualifications standards. The HLC extension will allow for all current and new concurrent enrollment instructors to work towards meeting the faculty qualifications standards through professional development plans that align to the institution's awarded extension timeline. The extension application deadline is December 15, 2016. Our plan is to submit the extension application this fall so that Minnesota State colleges and universities can get a response from the HLC that enables timely planning between postsecondary and secondary partners. Once a final response is received from the HLC, the final implementation timeline will be shared with our secondary partners.

Concurrent Enrollment Advisory Boards Play a Critical Role

Legislation passed in 2015 requires all postsecondary institutions offering concurrent enrollment programs to establish advisory boards to engage stakeholders in concurrent enrollment decisions. The local concurrent enrollment advisory boards will be invaluable in providing strategic advice and feedback on local concurrent enrollment issues and on systemwide concurrent enrollment procedures and practices. Concurrent enrollment advisory boards will be meeting this fall and throughout the year. The advisory boards will be asked to discuss items related to faculty qualifications, tested experience, and the Minnesota State pricing structures.

Minnesota State will Provide More Consistent Practices

Over the past two years, Minnesota State has been looking at ways to ensure more consistency in concurrent enrollment programming and practices across all campuses. Our colleges and universities will be implementing a common set of practices in the upcoming years, particularly in the areas of faculty qualifications and pricing structures. Minnesota State remains deeply committed to ensuring that concurrent enrollment opportunities for high school students continue and grow. More uniform programming, practices, and pricing will enhance program quality and sustainability.

FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS: In response to the HLC's 2015 clarifications on the standards for minimum faculty qualifications for concurrent enrollment instructors, Minnesota State completed a review of the credentials of all current concurrent enrollment instructors and have established the scope and areas of

credentialing needs statewide. The review revealed that 76 percent of concurrent enrollment instructors presently teaching in high schools across the state need anywhere from one to 18 graduate-level credits within the discipline they teach. In support of these concurrent enrollment instructors, Minnesota State universities are currently designing graduate coursework and programs that provide for discipline-specific content that will be available in formats that meet the needs of working professionals across the state (online, cohorts, summer, etc.). Visit the [Minnesota State concurrent enrollment website](#) for an updated list of courses and programs available at Minnesota State universities.

HLC also explained that Assumed Practice B.2 allows for the use of tested experience to qualify faculty members to meet faculty qualifications requirements. This tested experience must include a breadth and depth of experience outside of the classroom in real-world situations relevant to the discipline in which the faculty member would be teaching and what the institution determines is equivalent to the discipline-specific coursework it would otherwise require for a faculty position. In spring 2016, a Minnesota State systemwide workgroup was charged with developing recommendations for a framework for the application of tested experience to faculty credentialing requirements. The workgroup developed a draft that was shared with secondary and postsecondary stakeholders for feedback in late spring 2016. Minnesota State will continue to revise the framework this academic year and seek additional review and comment from Minnesota State campuses and campus concurrent enrollment advisory boards.

PRICING STRUCTURE: To ensure that concurrent enrollment programs can offer high quality, NACEP-accredited programs and continue to grow in the upcoming years, programs must be financially sustainable. When examining the direct costs of concurrent enrollment programs, it became apparent that many Minnesota State programs had a substantial gap between program expenses and revenues. In order to cover the direct costs of supporting and sustaining high quality programs, Minnesota State developed a uniform pricing structure for university programs and a separate, uniform pricing structure for college programs. The phase-in of the new pricing structures will not begin until fiscal year 2018 and colleges and universities will incrementally implement the common pricing structures over the next three to five years. By 2020, all courses offered through universities will have one uniform price of \$3300 per mentor/mentee relationship per course, per term, with the option of a per student charge for courses of 30 students or more. By 2022, all courses offered through colleges will have one uniform price of \$3000 per mentor/mentee relationship per course, per term. The pricing structure changes will be shared with concurrent enrollment advisory boards in fall 2016 for additional review and consideration.

Two More Campuses Receive NACEP Accreditation

Congratulations to Minnesota State Community and Technical College and Minnesota West Community and Technical College for receiving accreditation from the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP). One third (11 of 33) of Minnesota State campuses currently providing concurrent enrollment programming are now NACEP-accredited. By 2020-2021 all concurrent enrollment programs in Minnesota will need to achieve accreditation by NACEP.