

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
RULES GOVERNING CONCURRENT COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT FOR
STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE EIGHTH GRADE**

December 2012

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.01 The purpose of these rules is to establish the requirements and procedures concerning concurrent college and high school credit for students who have completed the eighth grade.

2.0 REGULATORY AUTHORITY

- 2.01 These rules shall be known as the Arkansas Department of Education Rules Governing Concurrent College and High School Credit for Students Who Have Completed the Eighth Grade.
- 2.02 These rules are enacted pursuant to the authority of the State Board of Education under Ark. Code Ann. § 6-11-105, ~~and Ark. Code Ann. § 6-18-223, § 6-16-1204,~~ and § 25-15-201 et seq

3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.01 A student who “has successfully completed the eighth grade” is a student who has been promoted to the ninth grade.
- 3.02 A student in grades 9-12 is considered "enrolled" in a public secondary school so long as he/she is counted for average daily membership of the school pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-20-2303(3)(C).
- 3.03 An “endorsed concurrent enrollment course” means a college level course offered by an institution of higher education in this state, that upon completion would qualify for academic credit in both the institution of higher education and a public high school that:
- 3.03.1 Is one of the four core areas of math, English, science, and social studies;
- 3.03.2 Meets the requirements of Sections 10.00 – 10.06 of the Arkansas Department of Education Rules for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Diploma Incentive Program And Rules Governing Advanced Placement Courses in the Four Core Areas in Arkansas High Schools with Guidelines for Endorsed Concurrent Enrollment Courses;

3.03.3 Is listed in the Arkansas Course Transfer System of the Department of Higher Education.

3.04 A “national school lunch student” means those students from low socioeconomic backgrounds as indicated by eligibility for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1751 et seq

3.05 “Private institution” is defined as an institution of higher education accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, or North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

4.0 ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE EIGHTH GRADE

4.01 Any student who is enrolled in grades 9-12 in an Arkansas public school shall be eligible to enroll in a publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the college or university.

4.01.1 If an Arkansas public college or university or private institution requires a college course placement score greater than a score of 19 on the ACT or an equivalent measure, the public school student must meet that institution’s concurrent admissions and course placement requirements.

4.01.2 A student in grade 12 who possesses at least an ACT sub-score of 17 in English, reading or mathematics (or an equivalent measure) may enroll in remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading and mathematics at a publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution.

4.01.3 Any institution of higher education offering a remedial/developmental education course(s) must inform the public school student, verbally and in writing, that successful completion of remedial/developmental education courses in English, reading and mathematics at one college or university does not guarantee college course placement at another Arkansas college or university, unless there is a written/signed college course placement agreement with the other Arkansas college or university. A list of the institutions of higher education with a signed college course placement agreement must be 1) included in the signed Memorandum of Agreement between the school district

and college/university, 2) published in the current college/university catalog, and 3) posted on the college/university

- 4.02 Any public school student in grades 9-12 who enrolls in and successfully completes a course(s) offered by a publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution shall be entitled to receive both high school and college grades and credit (credit earned by CLEP examination may not be counted as high school credit) toward graduation, as outlined in these regulations. Participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be documented by a written agreement between:
- 4.02.1 The public school student, and his or her parent(s) or guardian(s) if the public school student is under the age of eighteen (18);
 - 4.02.2 The public school or public school district where the student is enrolled; and
 - 4.02.3 The publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year College or university, or private institution.
- 4.03 Students must comply with applicable enrollment or graduation requirements of the public high school the student attends while the student participates in the concurrent credit program. Public school students who previously earned high school credit through the concurrent credit program shall maintain the earned credit through graduation, regardless of whether the student subsequently transfers to a public school or school district that opts not to participate in the concurrent credit program.
- 4.04 Three semester hours of college credit taken by a student in grades 9-12 at a publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private institution shall be the equivalent of one unit of high school credit in the same subject area. A three-semester hour remedial/developmental education course shall be the equivalent of one-half unit of credit for a high school career focus elective. A remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet the core subject area/unit requirements in English and mathematics.
- 4.05 College credit earned at a publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university or private institution by an eligible student shall be counted by the high school toward graduation, including credit earned through summer terms.

- 4.06 The student shall be responsible for all costs of higher education courses taken for concurrent college credit, unless the costs for these courses are paid by the public school district, a college/university scholarship, a grant, or a private foundation. If the costs for a higher education course(s) are paid by the public school district, a college/university scholarship, a grant, or a private foundation, a signed agreement must exist between the public school district, the external entity or foundation, and the publicly-supported or private institution of higher education.
- 4.07 Public school students in grade 12 who are enrolled in remedial/developmental education courses will not be counted for public higher education funding purposes.
- 4.08 Nothing in these rules shall be construed to require Arkansas public schools, publicly supported community colleges, technical colleges, four-year colleges or universities, or private institutions to participate in a concurrent credit program.
- 4.09 Any public school district and publicly supported or private institution of higher education that chooses to participate in a concurrent credit program shall implement and carry out the concurrent credit program in accordance with the rules of the Arkansas State Board of Education and the policies of the Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

5.00 ELIGIBILITY

- 5.01 To be eligible to enroll in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course, the student must:
 - 5.01.1 Be admitted by the institution of higher education as a non-degree or non-certificate seeking student; and
 - 5.01.2 Meet all of the prerequisites for the course in which he or she is enrolled; and
 - 5.01.3 Credit for the endorsed concurrent enrollment course may only be awarded by the institution of higher education offering the course.

6.00 TUITION

- 6.01 A state-supported two-year or four year institution of higher education may offer a reduced tuition rate for endorsed concurrent enrollment courses offered by the institution of higher education to high school students.

6.02 A national school lunch student shall not be required to pay any of the costs up to a maximum of six credit hours of endorsed concurrent enrollment courses that are taught:

6.02.1 On the grounds of the public school district in which the student is enrolled; and

6.02.2 By a teacher employed by the public school district in which the student is enrolled.

6.03 The costs for endorsed concurrent enrollment courses for a national school lunch student shall be paid:

6.03.1 By the public school district in which the student is enrolled;

6.03.2 By the institution of higher education offering the course; or

6.03.3 Through a cost-sharing agreement between the public school district and the institution of higher education.