

Concurrent Enrollment

Student Pathways



OVERVIEW

The Concurrent Enrollment program provides high school students with the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary courses and earn credit at no cost to them for tuition. Colorado data show that students in Concurrent Enrollment programs are more likely to enroll in postsecondary education, have higher postsecondary grade point averages and retention rates, and have a decreased need for remediation

PARTICIPATION & GROWTH (2015-16 School Year)

- 25,534 students participated in Concurrent Enrollment statewide; an increase of 10.4 percent (2,407 students) from 2014-15 to 2015-16.
- The number of Hispanic student participants – Colorado’s largest minority group – increased by 7 percent from 2014-15 to 2015-16.
- Nearly 10,300 students participated in Career Technical Education (CTE) Concurrent Enrollment courses, which represent nearly 40 percent of all Concurrent Enrollment students.
- 94 percent of school districts and 82 percent of high schools statewide offered Concurrent Enrollment programs.
- Denver Public Schools had the most students participating by headcount (2,531 students); while Moffat Consolidated School District 2, a rural district, had the highest percentage (80 percent) of students participating out of all Colorado school districts.
- 26 public institutions of higher education offered Concurrent Enrollment courses. Four-year colleges/universities saw the biggest percentage increase (36 percent) in student participation from 2014-15 to 2015-16.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE & OUTCOMES

- In 2015-16, Colorado high school students attempted a total of 214,276 Concurrent Enrollment credit hours (up from 198,375 hours in the previous year) – 93 percent were passed.
- The average number of credit hours attempted per student was 8, with an average of 7.5 hours passed.
- For the first time, more students enrolled in credential-seeking programs than non-credential seeking programs. Nearly 54 percent of Concurrent Enrollment students were enrolled in a credential-seeking program.

Legislation

In May 2009, the Colorado State Legislature passed the Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act (C.R.S. 22-35-101).

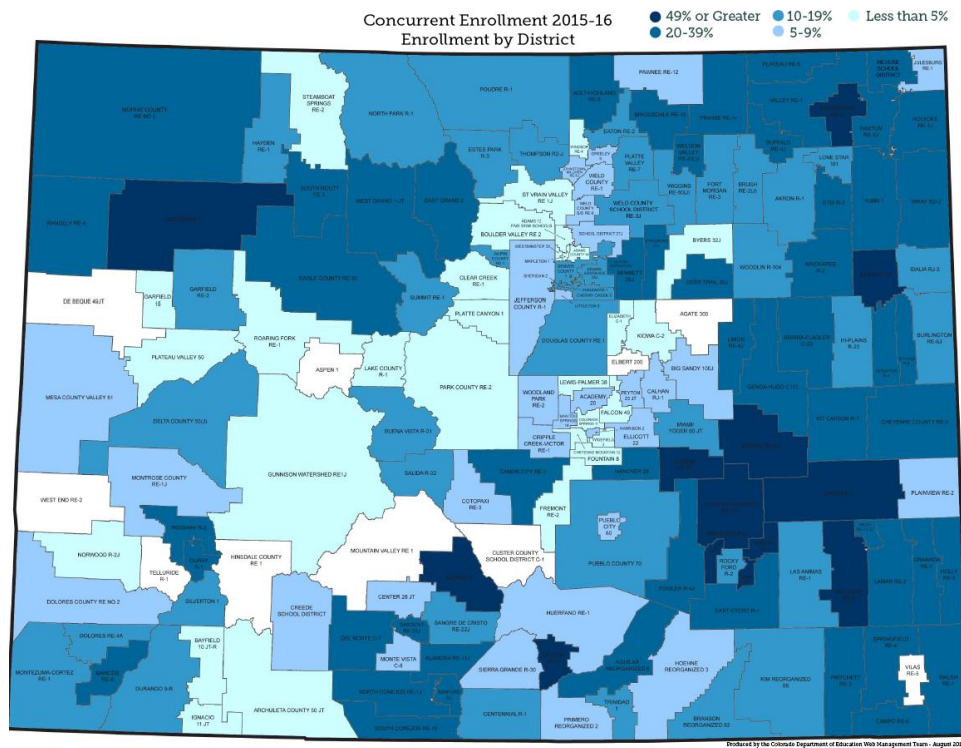
The Act created the Concurrent Enrollment program, defined as the simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a local education provider and in one or more postsecondary courses, including academic or career and technical education courses, which may include course work related to apprenticeship programs or internship programs (that can be applied toward a technical certificate or degree), at an institution of higher education.

FUNDING

Districts use per pupil revenue to pay the tuition for the postsecondary courses at the resident community college rate directly to the institution on behalf of the student. The district must enter into a cooperative agreement with a qualified institution of higher education which outlines: how credits will be awarded; the negotiated tuition rate; and the establishment of an academic plan of study for students to support ongoing counseling and career planning.

POSTSECONDARY READINESS

Expanding pathways from high school to postsecondary opportunities is essential to increasing the number of postsecondary degrees earned by Coloradans and decreasing high school dropout rates. Concurrent enrollment programs help students develop the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to be postsecondary and workforce ready.



Where can I learn more?

- [Office of Postsecondary Readiness – Concurrent Enrollment Resources](#)
- [Annual Report on Concurrent Enrollment, 2015-16 School Year](#)
- [View all CDE fact sheets: www.cde.state.co.us/communications/factsheetsandfaqs](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/factsheetsandfaqs)