



## MEMO

Date: July 1, 2013

Re: State Model Programs of Study, Dual Credit and Career Academy Course Crosswalk

To:

Dual Credit and Career Academy Course Providers

From:

Erika Volker, Partnerships for Innovation Director  
Matt Hastings, Nebraska Dept. of Education  
Rich Katt, Nebraska Dept. of Education

Due:

November 1, 2013

The past five years, the Partnerships for Innovation and Nebraska Career Education have been developing [State Model Programs of Study](#) which were crafted with business, industry, secondary and postsecondary representatives.

A [State Model Program of Study](#) consists of three courses, which in most cases, culminates in some sort of *value-add* for the student. Most courses are semester-based; however there are a few exceptions in Accounting and Project Lead the Way. For some Programs of Study, dual credit was the intended value-add, while industry-based certifications were the goal in others. Some Programs of Study do not have a value-add as it was not available for various reasons.

**Please note:** Dual credit is still a local college decision based on instructor qualifications and college course content.

The [State Model Programs of Study](#) were designed so that **ALL** sized schools could offer a CTE course sequence for students. In many cases, Career Academy programs go above and beyond the three course sequence. The Program of Study courses were designed with postsecondary faculty, primarily community college faculty to ensure the rigor of the value-add course and to confirm that the content taught in the high school would support or directly align to postsecondary programs of study.

Courses consist of Standards, Benchmarks and Sample Performance Indicators. Sample performance indicators are suggested activities and are not requirements of the course. A **Standard** might be similar to a **Unit** at the college-level and a **Benchmark** can be likened to an **Objective** ([see course example](#)). Within the Nebraska Dept. of Education guidelines, to receive "credit" for teaching a course within a Program of Study, educators (secondary and/or postsecondary) must cover 90% of the Standards and Benchmarks within a course.

The purpose of the Course Crosswalk is twofold:

1. Community colleges are providing high school students and school districts wonderful opportunities related to career exploration, planning and preparation with Career Academy programs and dual credit courses. Given recent changes to the data collection requirements for Nebraska school districts, the Department of Education is requesting that community colleges offering dual credit and career academy courses identify the courses, and their relationship to State Model Programs of Study. If, beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, the Career Academy service providers are not using the same course codes as the Nebraska Dept. of Education, the schools participating in the Academy programs will not be able to count students as Perkins concentrators. As a result of not being able to count students as concentrators, it may negatively impact their reporting to the State and subsequent funding.
2. In the 2012-13 NSSRS report, schools were required to report all dual credit and career academy courses and they had a difficult time as there currently exists no statewide clearinghouse or list to reference. As the 2012-13 school year and reporting timeframe has passed, we are requesting the crosswalk for the courses to be offered in the 2013-14 school year.

At the Spring Statewide Career Academy meeting, the [crosswalk template example](#) and the Nebraska State Model Programs of Study Courses website was shared. Within the online document, a tab has been identified for each community college to record the dual credit and career academy courses delivered to partnering high schools.

**Action Requested:** Please ask dual credit and career academy faculty to review the State Model Program of Study courses to determine if there is a match. Academy and dual credit courses can go above and beyond the three course sequence and/ or content covered, but the base of 90% of Standards and Benchmarks must be met.

**To clarify:** *This crosswalk is not intended to dictate college course content or offerings, rather it is an exercise to determine if courses do align and where they do not, how the Dept. of Education can identify additional courses within the [Course Codes and Clearing Endorsements](#) document so high school students activity and effort can be accurately captured.*

**The information we are requesting in the Course Crosswalk align with a portion of the data school districts are required to provide to NDE within the NSSRS for each course and each student:**

1. College course code (i.e. ACT 101)
2. College Course title (i.e. Accounting I)
3. [State Model Program of Study Course Code](#) (i.e. 030300)
4. [State Model Program of Study Course Title](#) (i.e. Accounting)
5. Career Academy Course
6. Dual credit (high school and college credit concurrently, not articulated credit)
7. How each course (dual credit and career academy) is delivered:
  - a. Classroom – Not Career Academy
  - b. Synchronous – Not Career Academy
  - c. Asynchronous – Not Career Academy
  - d. Career Academy Synchronous
  - e. Career Academy Asynchronous
  - f. Career Academy in Classroom



**The State Model Programs of Study and the courses can be found here:**

<http://cestandards.education.ne.gov/Default.aspx>

On the left-hand side of the screen you will see the 6 Career Field Areas. Click on a Career Field, and then click on the Cluster for the course sequences. Each course that has been developed will hyperlink to the course content. Depending on the year the course was designed, some are in an Excel format while others are in Word. The structure of the courses is the same, however.

**Please Note:** Family & Consumer Sciences and Health Sciences will have some updates done to the courses and program of study July 22 - 24, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Erika Volker, ***on or before September 15*** at the latest. Skilled & Technical Sciences and Ag, Food and Natural Resources will be adding some courses, but will not impact the current Programs of Study.

We sincerely thank you for the work you put forth in providing students and districts advanced Career Education opportunities that our schools on their own cannot offer. We recognize that it is a lot of work coordinating between and among schools and offering quality programs that work in a variety of learning environments.