

## **Community College Board Policy Alternative Methods of Awarding College Credit for Secondary Courses**

The (Superintendent/President) shall establish alternative methods for awarding college credit for secondary courses through agreement with Local Education Agencies<sup>1</sup> (LEA term defined as Unified School District/USD - see background). *This policy, and related procedures, are compliant with all California Code of Regulations, and specifically Title 5 Education, Division 6, Chapter 6, Subchapter 1, Article 5, §55002 Standards and Criteria for Courses, §55050 Credit by Examination<sup>2</sup>, §55051 Articulation of High School Courses<sup>3</sup>, and §55052 Advanced Placement Examinations.*

Alternative methods of awarding college credit are implemented using the Course-to-Course College Credit by Agreement. The Course-to-Course College Credit by Agreement is necessary to formalize the understanding and timely actions the college and the USD must take to ensure college credit will appear on the academic record/transcript of a high school student eligible by participation, assessment and timely action. The agreement must be properly implemented to result in the college awarding credit in compliance with Title 5 and the guidance provided in the Alternate Methods for the Awarding of College Credit: Credit by Examination for Articulated High School Courses (adopted spring 2013) by the Academic Senate for California Community Colleges.

Footnotes included in background section: Alternative Methods of Awarding College Credit for Secondary Courses

## Alternative Methods of Awarding College Credit for Secondary Courses

### BACKGROUND

The Academic Senate for California Community Colleges authored Alternate Methods for the Awarding of College Credit: Credit by Examination for Articulated High School Courses (adopted spring 2013). Curriculum committees and administrative procedure implementers are advised to consider its guidance; document available at <http://www.asccc.org/sites/default/files/AlternativeMethodsForAwardingOfCollegeCredit.pdf>

1. Citation: Education code: 47640. For the purposes of this article, "local educational agency" means a school district as defined in Section 41302.5 or a charter school that is deemed a local educational agency pursuant to Section 47641.

An LEA is a Unified School District (USD), inclusive of Adult School and joint powers agreement with a Regional Occupational Program (ROP) or a Charter School.

2. The Credit by Examination (CBE) regulation addresses the use of CBE in all instances with the most common recipient being the currently enrolled college student challenging a course using CBE. The Articulation of High School Courses (55051) regulation specifically authorizes CBE be used with the secondary student recipient therefore the Course-to-Course College Credit by Agreement should extend the recommended remedies underlined and shown in [bracket] below. Italics used to emphasize existing language.

#### **§55050. Credit by Examination**

(a) The governing board of each community college district shall adopt and publish policies and procedures pertaining to credit by examination in accordance with the provisions of this section.

(b) The governing board may grant credit to any student who satisfactorily passes an examination approved or conducted by proper authorities of the college. Such credit may be granted only to a student who is registered at the college [a secondary student with a college identification number] and in good standing [a secondary student who earned a grade of 'C' or higher on the CBE] and only for a course listed in the catalog of the community college.

(c) *The nature and content of the examination shall be determined solely by faculty in the discipline who normally teach the course for which credit is to be granted in accordance with policies and procedures approved by the curriculum committee established pursuant to section 55002. The faculty shall determine that the examination adequately measures mastery of the course content as set forth in the outline of record. The faculty may accept an examination conducted at a location other than the community college for this purpose.*

(d) *A separate examination shall be conducted for each course for which credit is to be granted. Credit may be awarded for prior experience or prior learning only in terms of individually identified courses for which examinations are conducted pursuant to this section.*

(e) The student's academic record shall be clearly annotated to reflect that credit was earned by examination.

(f) Grading shall be according to the regular grading system approved by the governing board pursuant to section 55023, except that students shall be offered a "pass-no pass" option if that option is ordinarily available for the course.

(g) Units for which credit is given pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not be counted in determining the 12 semester hours of credit in residence required for an associate degree.

(h) A district may charge a student a fee for administering an examination pursuant to this section, provided the fee does not exceed the enrollment fee which would be associated with enrollment in the course for which the student seeks credit by examination [recommend a fee not be charged to a secondary student].

3. Articulation of High School Courses recognizes course articulation (b) BUT (c) & (d) state Credit by Examination (CBE) is the only mechanism for all courses to count toward a college student's education goal. The Course-to-Course College Credit by Agreement formalizes faculty authorization and assessment to result in CBE. CBE is necessary for college credit to be noted on the secondary student's academic record/transcript (and ensures the course is treated equally).

**§ 55051. Articulation of High School Courses.**

(a) For purposes of this section, the term "articulated high school course" means a high school course or courses that the faculty in the appropriate discipline, using policies and procedures approved by the curriculum committee established pursuant to section 55002, have determined to be comparable to a specific community college course.

(b) The governing board of a community college district may adopt policies to permit articulated high school courses to be applied to community college requirements in accordance with this section. Articulated high school courses may be accepted in lieu of comparable community college courses to partially satisfy:

(1) Requirements for a certificate program, including the total number of units required for the certificate; or,

(2) The major or area of emphasis requirements in a degree program.

(c) *Articulated high school courses used to partially satisfy certificate or major/area of emphasis requirements shall be clearly noted as such on the student's academic record. Notations of community college course credit shall be made only if community college courses are successfully completed or if credit is earned via credit by examination.*

(d) *Except through credit by examination, as defined in section 55753, high school courses may not be used to satisfy:*

(1) *The requirement of section 55063 that students complete at least 60 semester or 90 quarter units in order to receive an associate degree; or,*

(2) *Any general education requirement for the associate degree established by the district.*