

# BLUEPRINT FOR COLLEGE READINESS STATE PROFILE



## MICHIGAN



Michigan has addressed four of the 10 Blueprint policies to improve college readiness in the state. It has developed approaches for two of four high school anchor policies by adopting college and career readiness standards and assessments. It was an early adopter in requiring all 11th graders to take the ACT and is one of four states to require all students to take the WorkKeys career readiness assessment.

Michigan has not addressed any of the four college benchmarks. However, the state recently adopted a performance-based funding model that could be complemented by clear college attainment or completion goals.

In addition, Michigan has addressed both bridge anchor policies. It is one of 32 states with clear definitions of college and career readiness and has a P-20 data pipeline in place.

| POLICY REVIEW   | MICHIGAN   | NATIONAL  |
|---|--|---|
| <b>1. CCR STANDARDS</b><br>AP, IB and/or dual credit required   | <b>YES</b><br>Yes - Dual enrollment course offerings mandatory | 48 states + D.C.<br>25 states   |
| <b>2. ASSESSMENTS</b>   | <b>YES</b> , ACT; Other  | 14 - SBAC<br>11 - PARCC<br>18 - ACT<br>4 - SAT<br>10 - state developed<br>14 - end-of-course  |
| <b>3. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS</b><br>H.S. course requirements match statewide college admissions  | <b>NO</b> statewide course req. for college                    | 18 states match courses<br>Including 6 states that align all courses and 12 states that align all courses but foreign language  |
| <b>4. K-12 ACCOUNTABILITY</b><br>CCR is indicator in system   | <b>NO</b>  | 24 states use CCR to determine performance  |
| <b>5. ADMISSION STANDARDS</b><br>Statewide or systemwide  | <b>NO</b>  | 28 - common admission standards<br>15 - systemwide<br>13 - statewide  |
| <b>6. REMEDIAL AND PLACEMENT POLICIES</b><br>Statewide or systemwide remedial policies<br>Statewide or systemwide placement policies  | <b>NO</b>  | 27 - both remedial and placement policies<br>39 - remedial policies<br>27 - placement policies  |
| <b>7. TRANSFER (3 OUT OF 4 POLICIES)</b><br>Transferable core of lower-division courses<br>Common course numbering<br>Guaranteed transfer of associate degree<br>Credit by assessment | <b>NO</b><br>No<br>No<br>No<br>No                              | 23 have at least 3 of the following policies:<br>36 - transferable core<br>16 - Common course numbering<br>36 - guaranteed transfer of associate degrees<br>16 - credit by assessment       |
| <b>8. HIGHER-ED ACCOUNTABILITY (ALL 3)</b><br>Statewide attainment goals<br>Completion or attainment goals in master plan<br>Performance-funding model and metrics                    | <b>NO</b><br>No<br>No<br>Yes, Retention, Graduation            | 19 have all 3 of the following policies:<br>26 states have a statewide attainment goal<br>36 states have completion or attainment goal in master plan<br>32 states have performance-funding |
| <b>9. STATEWIDE CCR DEFINITION</b>  | <b>YES</b>   | 32 states + D.C. have CCR definition  |
| <b>10. P-20 DATA</b><br>High school feedback report annually  | <b>YES</b><br>Yes  | 50 states + D.C. have data system<br>42 states + D.C. have feedback report  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>4 out of 10</b>   |   |

## STRENGTHS

Michigan is a national leader as one of six states that requires all districts to allow eligible students to participate in dual enrollment coursework and that prohibits colleges from turning away otherwise eligible high school students.

The state also has in place a P-20 data pipeline that is able to provide student-level data to the people who need to make decisions about students' education, such as principals, teachers and parents. Robust P-20 data systems can support both state and local leaders in analyzing the performance and effectiveness of a number of policies and programs. It uses the data to provide high school feedback reports and as early warning systems that use individual student data from the schools and districts.

## CONSIDERATIONS

Michigan should consider adding indicators for college and career readiness to its system for determining school performance. It is one of 27 states that lacks the performance measures, which are a way to make schools more accountable and thus increase college enrollment rates. Indicators used by states include measures such as participation in college prep courses (e.g., Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate). The state also should look at creating statewide, uniform transfer policies.

Currently, transfer policies are governed by the Michigan Transfer Agreement. However, participation in the agreement is voluntary for institutions and therefore transfer policies do not hold the power of law. The state should consider moving toward mandatory transfer policies, which could include transfer of lower-division core courses and guaranteed transfer of an associate degree.

## RESOURCES AND STATE EXAMPLES

College and Career Readiness Initiative, *Joint Agreement on Virginia's College and Career Ready Mathematics and English Performance Expectations*, Virginia Department of Education, [http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/college\\_career\\_readiness/expectations/joint\\_agreement.pdf](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/college_career_readiness/expectations/joint_agreement.pdf).

*Transferability of Postsecondary Credit Following Student Transfer or Coenrollment, Statistical Analysis Report*, National Center for Education Studies, <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2014/2014163.pdf>.

### Wisconsin – Stakeholder engagement

Wisconsin's **Act 20** (2013) mandates the development and adoption of college and career readiness standards by seeking information from a broad range of sources, including elementary and secondary teachers, instructors and experts from postsecondary institutions. This approach attempts to strengthen the connection between secondary and postsecondary schools, better communicating what it means for students to be college and career ready.

### Florida – Comprehensive transfer policies

Florida has long been considered a leader in transfer policy. In addition to the four necessary statewide transfer policies listed in the Blueprint database, recent legislation — **H.B. 7135** (2012) — further supports transfer and completion by focusing on students and ensuring institutional compliance. It requires that students entering an associate degree program must, within the first completed 30 credits, indicate a baccalaureate degree program of interest at a four-year institution. The institution must notify the student of the prerequisites for that program.