



NEW MEXICO



New Mexico has addressed five of the 10 Blueprint policies to improve college readiness in the state. It has addressed three of the four high school anchor policies. The state has in place more rigorous academic Common Core standards and is administering end-of-course and the Partnership for the Assessment of Readiness of College and Careers (PARCC) assessments to determine how well students are mastering the standards.

The state has policies to address one of the four college anchor benchmarks. It has a comprehensive approach to facilitate student transfers from two- and four-year institutions and has adopted three of the transfer policies included in ECS' analysis. New Mexico has implemented one of the two bridge benchmarks. The state has developed a P-20 data pipeline to provide student-level data to the people who need to make decisions about students' education, such as principals, teachers and parents.

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

STRENGTHS

New Mexico has a strong commitment to provide students with access to advanced coursework. Each district in the state must offer a program of courses for dual credit, in cooperation with an institution of higher education. In addition, at least one of the units students complete for high school graduation must be earned as an AP or honors course, dual credit course or distance learning course.

The state also has a strong K-12 accountability program that incorporates measures of college and career readiness into its calculations of school performance. As such, the state is providing increased transparency with the goal of improving the readiness of its students for postsecondary work.

CONSIDERATIONS

New Mexico should consider developing a uniform set of requirements for admission to four-year colleges. Twenty-eight states have either statewide or systemwide requirements. Many of the states go beyond the traditional high school course requirements. Twenty-four states use assessments, including the ACT, SAT or an institutional-level test. Additionally, 20 states include a high school GPA in their admission requirements, and some states set specific minimums, which typically range between 2.0 and 3.0.

New Mexico also should consider adopting a statewide definition of college and career readiness that is recognized by high schools as they graduate students and colleges as they admit students and place them in remedial or credit-bearing courses. A definition could provide a backbone for the state to align its high school and higher education benchmarks.

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.

Recovery: Job Growth and Education Requirements Through 2020, Georgetown Public Policy Institute, <https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/tll0zkxt0puz45hu21g6>.

Utah – Differentiated admissions

Utah System of Higher Education policy **R461-3** outlines admission, access and articulation requirements. The minimum admission requirements include high school coursework, assessments such as ACT or SAT and high school GPA. Utah's policy is unique in separating public institutions into metropolitan/regional universities and teaching/research universities.

The policy provides information about admission to different types of institutions and sets out expectations for students. Metropolitan/regional universities are expected to provide access consistent with the minimum admission requirements. Teaching/research universities are expected to require more rigorous preparation to meet classroom standards in the institutions.

Tennessee – Statewide CCR definition

Tennessee defines college and career readiness as “the knowledge and skills needed for entry-level work and college freshmen coursework [and] success whether pursuing a career or a college education.” The state quantitatively puts this definition to use through cut scores for both the ACT and future assessments as standards for college acceptance and course placement.

Statewide, the Tennessee Board of Regents and University of Tennessee leverage the CCR definition to align the K-12 Common Core State Standards to credit-bearing, entry-level courses in English and math. Tennessee's CCR Definition can be found at: <http://www.state.tn.us/thec/Divisions/AcademicAffairs/coretocollege/2014/Core%20to%20College%20Interim%20Grant%20Report.pdf>.