



SOUTH CAROLINA



South Carolina has addressed five of the 10 Blueprint policies to improve college readiness in the state.

The state has programs to meet three of the four high school anchor policies. It has aligned high school graduation requirements with college admission requirements in all core subjects, except foreign language.

South Carolina has developed policies for one of the four college benchmarks. It has put in place uniform admission requirements for its four-year public colleges.

The state also has put in place one of the two bridge anchor policies, a P-20 data pipeline.

POLICY REVIEW	SOUTH CAROLINA	NATIONAL
1. CCR STANDARDS AP, IB and/or dual credit required	YES Yes – AP course offerings mandatory	48 states + D.C. 25 states
2. ASSESSMENTS	YES , State-developed/ contracted; Other	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	YES , except foreign language	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	NO	24 states use CCR to determine performance
5. ADMISSION STANDARDS Statewide or systemwide	YES Statewide High school coursework	28 – common admission standards 15 – systemwide 13 – statewide
6. REMEDIAL AND PLACEMENT POLICIES Statewide or systemwide remedial policies Statewide or systemwide placement policies	NO Systemwide	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	NO No No Partial Yes	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 Yes No	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

South Carolina is a model state in setting up a P-20 data pipeline that protects student privacy. The state has established a cross-agency structure to govern its data system to ensure privacy is maintained. In addition, the state is implementing further data quality controls within the statewide student information system so that data are complete, correct and meaningful. The data pipeline is used by educators as an early warning system for students who fall behind and to generate feedback reports to high schools on their graduates' performance in college.

The state also is a leader in developing uniform requirements for admission to its public four-year colleges. It is one of 13 states with statewide standards in place; however the policy only includes high school coursework as a measure for admission.

CONSIDERATIONS

The state should consider including additional measures of college and career readiness in its system of determining school performance. Many states are working to define college and career readiness, although the indicators used for K-12 accountability vary. Some states consider college-going rates, ACT/SAT results or college remediation rates. Others measure dual enrollment course credits earned and Advanced Placement scores.

RESOURCES AND STATE EXAMPLES

Kentucky – School performance rooted in college and career readiness

In 2009, the commonwealth passed S.B. 1, creating the **Unbridled Learning: College/Career-Ready for All** program. The program emphasizes accountability with a focus on the end goal — college completion. It details what students should learn, what will be tested, how subjects will be tested, when tests are given and lays out how the elements are incorporated into public school accountability. Rooting an accountability system in college and career readiness sends a strong message to students, schools and communities.

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>.