Blueprint for College Readiness

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ECS Overview

ECS believes that the sharing of policy ideas is one way to support development of sound education policy
Unbiased Information

We provide unbiased information—we don’t advocate for certain education policies.

Expertise and Resources

We provide expertise and resources on all education issues, from pre-kindergarten all the way through college and the workforce.
AGENDA

• Topline Overview of Blueprint for College Readiness initiative
• Blueprint for College Readiness Report findings: Transfer policies
• State Exemplars:
  • Colorado
  • Florida
• Q & A and Discussion

Technical Notes

• All participates are muted
• Questions may be submitted via the Chat Box feature
• Please submit questions through-out the presentation. We will cover as many issues as time allows during the Q and A portion at the end of guest presentations.
• Any technical challenges during webinar please email Sarah Pingel at spingel@ecs.edu for assistance.
Ten Policy Issues; 3 Policy Anchors

- Analysis of 10 critical K-12 and higher education policies
- Project revolves around 3 policy anchors
  - High school policies
  - Higher education policies
  - Bridge policies
Anchor 1: High School Policies

1. College and career readiness standards
2. College and career readiness assessments
3. Graduation requirements
4. Accountability

Anchor 2: Higher Education Policies

1. Statewide admission standards
2. Statewide remedial and placement policies
3. Transfer and articulation
4. Higher ed. Accountability
Anchor 3: Bridge Policies

1. Statewide college and career readiness definition
2. Data pipeline and reporting

Blueprint for College Readiness

• Report released in late October 2014.
• Framework to help conceptualize education reform efforts underway.
• Views K-12 and postsecondary policy alignment and collaboration as essential.
• Three elements:
  • Full report
  • Web-based Data portal
  • 50 State Profiles.
How we hope you use this report

✓ Guide for reflecting on states policy progress to support college and career readiness goals.

✓ Tool to help facilitate communication among and across different policy actors in the education space.

✓ Barometer of state policy storytelling:
  • Are we doing what we are telling ourselves we’re doing?
  • Are my colleagues doing what I think they are doing?
Transfer Policy Questions

• Do states offer statewide transfer for associate degrees earned at in-state institutions?
• Which states guarantee the transfer of general education or lower-division core courses from one in-state institution to another?
• Which states use common course numbering to improve the articulation of courses?
• Which states have in place a credit by assessment policy?

Comprehensive Transfer Policy

What counts?
• Criteria established to evaluate transfer and articulation policies.
• States needed *three* of the following four elements in place:
  1. Transferable core of lower-division courses.
  2. Common course numbering.
  3. Guaranteed transfer of associate degree.
  4. Credit by assessment.
Overall Results – 3 of 4 Transfer Policies

State Examples

Colorado
Progress made on reverse transfer policy

Florida
Review the state’s comprehensive approach to transfer policy and outreach

www.ecs.org #ECSBlueprint
State Example: Colorado

Carl Einhaus  
Director of Student Affairs,  
Colorado Department of Higher Education

State Example: Florida

Julie Alexander  
Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, Florida Department of Education
Reverse Transfer in Colorado

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Reverse Transfer =
“Degree Within Reach” in Colorado

http://degreewithinreach.org/
Reverse Transfer in Colorado

Institutions Projected to Participate by Next Year:

- 13 Community College System institutions
- 2 public community colleges not in the system
- 13 public 4-year institutions
- 1 private 4-year institution

CDHE collects college course data from 2 & 4-year institutions
CDHE pulls students who meet criteria for reverse transfer
CDHE sends list of eligible students to 4-year institutions
Reverse Transfer in Colorado

4-year reviews student list and excludes students with degrees and certain holds.

4-year sends eligible students notification email with opt-in link.

Student receives email and opts-in (opt-in process maintained by CDHE).

Reverse Transfer in Colorado

CDHE sends 4-year course data for students who opted in to the Community College System Office via Parchment/iData Hub.

2-years perform degree audits with data sent from CDHE.

2-years confers degrees or contacts students to send in any additional transcripts from other institutions attended.
Reverse Transfer in Colorado

Community College System tracks degrees awarded and reports to CDHE and 4-years yearly

CDHE reviews and revises to improve process after each yearly phase

Reverse Transfer in Colorado: Lessons Learned

• Determine if data collected by state is sufficient to articulate courses
• Fully define data transfer process needs with vendor and clarify how data errors are handled
• Dedicate sufficient time to building transfer articulation in preparation (if needed)
Reverse Transfer in Colorado: Future Improvements

• Change opt-in process to increase student participation/degrees awarded
• Keep up with the Clearinghouse process and in future determine if can be somehow integrated with state’s process

Reverse Transfer in Colorado

Thank you!

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Articulation in Florida

March 5, 2015
Julie Alexander, Ed.D.

Higher Education Governance in Florida

Public

State Board of Education
Florida College System
Board of Governors
State University System

Nonpublic

Higher Education Coordinating Council
Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida
Articulation Coordinating Council
Commission for Independent Education
Articulation Policy Overview

• Statewide Course Numbering System course transfer guarantee
• General Education Core Courses
• General Education program transfer guarantee
• Common course prerequisites for all baccalaureate programs
• 30 hour advising for associate in arts
• Statewide “2+2” Articulation Agreement
Challenge and Opportunity

**Meta-major**
- Create meta-majors and align associate and bachelor degree programs

**General Education Core**
- Align general education core course options with meta-majors

**30-Hour Advising**
- Verify meta-major and designate institution/bachelor program of interest, provide information to institution of interest for planning and early advising purposes

**Common prerequisites**
- Align common prerequisite requirements with meta-majors

**Transfer**
- Guarantee admission to institution and program of interest for AA students who 1) maintain full-time enrollment, 2) maintain satisfactory academic progress towards degree within the designated meta-major, and 3) transfer to the institution/bachelor program of interest declared at 30-hour advising

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Questions and Discussion

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