

**TOPIC: REVISION TO ADMISSIONS STANDARDS POLICY –
COLORADO MOUNTAIN COLLEGE**

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I. SUMMARY

This item recommends revisions to Commission Admissions Standards policy to reflect recent statutory changes to Colorado Mountain College’s role and mission.

II. BACKGROUND

During the 2010 legislative session, the General Assembly passed and the Governor signed into law SB 10-101. The new law (CRS 23-71-102) permits CMC to offer up to five bachelor’s degrees: “...in addition to its mission as a junior college, may also offer no more than five baccalaureate degree programs as its board of trustees determines appropriate to address the needs of the communities within its service area...” The CMC board of trustees has determined that any baccalaureate degree offered will be as a completion program and will only admit student as transfers.

Since 1986, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education has held the authority to establish statewide admission standards for public colleges and universities. Section 5.04 of the Academic Affairs Policy Part F: Admission Standards Policy provides the minimum standards needed for transfer student admission to Colorado’s four year institutions. Table 3 of that policy provides the minimum grade point average and allowable window size for any applicant that meets the definition of transfer student. The differing minimum GPA requirements reflect each institution’s statutory role and mission.

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

As CMC now has the statutory role and mission to offer baccalaureate programs, the institution must be included in the Admissions Standards Policy. The institution has decided to admit transfer students into the baccalaureate programs only after the completion of 45 credit hours. The addition of CMC to “Table 3: Minimum Grade Point Average Requirement for Students Transferring from Another Institution with More Than Twelve Collegiate Semester Credit Hours” in Section 5.04 of the Admission Standards Policy will align the new role and mission of CMC with the Admission Standards Policy. Since the CMC Board of Trustee has decided to only admit transfer students with 45 credit hours or more to CMC’s baccalaureate programs, there is no need to add a minimum index score to the freshman admission standards.

Recommended changes are shown in the attached draft policy (Attachment A).

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

**That the Commission approve the proposed revisions in the Academic Affairs Policy Part F
ADMISSIONS STANDARDS POLICY.**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. §23-1-108 (1) (e)
C.R.S. §23-71-102