

**TOPIC: ANNUAL REPORT ON CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT  
2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR**

**PREPARED BY: BETH BEAN, CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER**

**I. SUMMARY**

Creating more and better pathways from high school to higher education is essential if we are to reach our state goals of increasing high school and college completion rates. Dual, or concurrent, enrollment is one strategy states across the country are using to cultivate seamless P-20 pathways. Dual enrollment programs provide high school students the opportunity to enroll in college-level courses and earn credit at no cost to them for tuition. These programs help students develop the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to be postsecondary and workforce ready. Research conducted by the Colorado Department of Higher Education (DHE) indicates that dual enrollment students are more likely to enroll in college than their peers and are less likely to need remedial education once in college.

Pursuant to statute (C.R.S. §22-35-112), DHE and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) have prepared this report.

This report summarizes:

1. Numbers of public school students participating in Concurrent Enrollment, ASCENT and other dual enrollment programs;
2. Information on the number of local education providers and institutions of higher education that have entered into cooperative agreements;
3. Demographic information about students that participated in Concurrent Enrollment;
4. Data on the total number and percentage of students that passed Concurrent Enrollment courses during the 2012-2013 school year;
5. Information on remedial and career and technical education Concurrent Enrollment courses;
6. Outcomes analyses exploring the benefits of dual enrollment in regard to postsecondary enrollment, first-year college success and need for remedial education;
7. Next steps CDE and DHE will take to support districts and higher education institutions in expanding and enhancing Concurrent Enrollment and ASCENT programs.

**II. BACKGROUND**

DHE and CDE have prepared this report in compliance with statute (C.R.S. §22-35-112). This is the fifth consecutive year this report has been released. It provides a descriptive summary of

students in Colorado's public education system who participated in dual enrollment programs in the 2013-2014 academic year.

### **III. STAFF ANALYSIS**

The *Annual Report on Concurrent Enrollment 2013-2014* is attached.

### **IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**This report is an information item only; no formal action is required by the Commission.**

#### **STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

C.R.S. §23-35-112

(1) (a) Upon request by the department, a local education provider shall submit to the department any data that the department reasonably requires for the purpose of preparing and submitting the reports described in subsection (2) of this section. In submitting data to the department, each local education provider shall use whenever possible the state data reporting system described in section 22-11-501. The department shall seek to minimize and eliminate the duplication of data reporting required under this paragraph (a). The department in particular shall note the data collection and reporting already required and conducted by the department, public schools, and local education providers.

(b) Upon request by the department of higher education, an institution of higher education shall submit to the department of higher education any data that the department of higher education reasonably requires for the purpose of preparing and submitting the reports described in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) On or before February 1, 2011, and on or before February 1 each year thereafter, the department and the department of higher education shall collaborate to prepare and submit to the education committees of the senate and house of representatives, or any successor committees, a report concerning the concurrent enrollment of qualified students in postsecondary courses, including academic courses and career and technical education courses. The report shall include, but need not be limited to:

(a) The number and names of local education providers and institutions of higher education that have entered into cooperative agreements;

(b) The number of qualified students who participated in a concurrent enrollment program in the previous school year, including subtotals for each local education provider and each institution of higher education;

(c) Demographic information about qualified students who participated in a concurrent enrollment program in the previous school year;

(d) The total number of credit hours completed at each institution of higher education by qualified students who participated in a concurrent enrollment program in the previous school year;

(e) The total number of basic skills courses completed at each institution of higher education in the previous school year by qualified students participating in a concurrent enrollment program;

(f) The total tuition costs paid by local education providers to institutions of higher education in the previous school year on behalf of qualified students who participated in concurrent enrollment programs in the previous school year, including subtotals for each local education provider and each institution of higher education;

(g) The total number of qualified students designated by the department as ASCENT program participants in the previous school year;

(h) The postsecondary degree and certificate programs in which ASCENT program participants were concurrently enrolled in the previous school year, including subtotals indicating how many ASCENT program participants concurrently enrolled in each postsecondary degree and certificate program;

(i) Data indicating the total number and percentages of qualified students who failed to complete at least one course in which they concurrently enrolled;

(j) To the extent possible, data indicating the total number and percentage of qualified students who concurrently enrolled in college courses who have completed a postsecondary degree; and

(k) Repealed.

(3) The reports described in subsection (2) of this section may include quantitative and qualitative analyses concerning student and administrator attitudes and behaviors, program costs and productivity, academic and administrative policies, program availability and variety, or any objectives of the ASCENT program described in section 22-35-108 (1), which studies may be prepared by a party other than the department or the department of higher education.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

A. Annual Report on Concurrent Enrollment 2013-2014 School Year