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### **Report shows continued growth in concurrent enrollment programs**

***CORRECTION: Revised to reflect correct number of new Concurrent Enrollment students in first paragraph***

**DENVER - March 27, 2014** - The 2012-2013 concurrent enrollment report released today by the Colorado Department of Higher Education finds participation in Concurrent Enrollment\* grew by 28 percent - or 3,945 students - over the previous year.

Dual or concurrent enrollment refers to college courses students take in high school at no cost to them for tuition. Dual or concurrent enrollment is one strategy states are using to cultivate seamless P-20 pathways aimed at boosting college completion and decreasing high school dropout rates. These programs help high school students develop the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary for them to be considered postsecondary and workforce ready.

Key findings in 2012-2013 report:

- Students who participated in dual enrollment programs in high school had higher first-year credit hour accumulation, grade point averages, and retention rates in college.
- Participation in dual enrollment is associated with a 23 percent increase in the likelihood of enrolling in college and a 10 percent decrease in the need for remediation, holding gender, income, race/ethnicity and ACT scores constant.
- About 26,900 students participated in dual enrollment programs in the 2012-2013 school year, or 22 percent of all 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders in Colorado public high schools.
- Among Colorado's public high schools, Cherokee Trail in the Cherry Creek School District had the highest number of students participating in Concurrent Enrollment for the third year in a row.
- Denver Public Schools had the most students participating in Concurrent Enrollment of all Colorado school districts.
- Crowley County School District, a small rural district, had the highest percentage of high school students participating in Concurrent Enrollment (88 percent).
- About 92 percent of school districts and 75 percent of high schools in Colorado had at least one student taking a Concurrent Enrollment course in 2012-13.
- The number of Hispanics students - Colorado's largest minority group - participating in Concurrent Enrollment increased by 37.3 percent.

- Slightly more females than males participated in Concurrent Enrollment.
- A large majority of students - 84 percent - passed all of their Concurrent Enrollment courses in 2012-13, an improvement from the previous year's pass rate of 78 percent.
- Some 775 students in Concurrent Enrollment or ASCENT programs earned some type of postsecondary credential in 2012-13, representing a 60 percent increase over last year's credential completion total.

This report was prepared by the Colorado Department of Higher Education and the Colorado Department of Education and was submitted to the Education Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives pursuant to 22-35-112 C.R.S.

\*“Dual enrollment” in this report refers to the broad array of programs available to high school students that allow them to take college-level courses for credit. “Concurrent Enrollment” refers only to the statewide programs created by House Bill 09-1319 and detailed in the Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act (C.R.S. §22-35-101 et seq.).

- [Read the complete report.](#)
- [See our concurrent enrollment webpage.](#)

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