



COLORADO

Department of
Higher Education

1600 Broadway, Suite 2200
Denver, CO 80202

Meeting	Academic Council March 11, 2025 1:00 – 3:00 pm
Location	Remote ONLY
Call-In Information	Join Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 898 3861 4365 Passcode: 819215
Meeting Participants	Provosts and Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) of the public institutions of higher education
Meeting Objectives	Members advise the Department on policy development and implementation, as well as other matters affecting higher education.

AGENDA -- NOTES

1. Greetings and Introductions

In attendance: Helen Caprioglio (CSUP); Margaret Doell (ASU); Roze Henschell (CSU-SYS); Andy Herring (CSM); Mark Kavanaugh (CU Boulder); Mike Lightner (CU-SYS); Matt Makley (MSU Denver); Kimberly Miloch (CSU); Dawn Mulnern (FLC); Beth Myers (CU Denver); Kathryn Regjo (CMC); Linda Van Doren (EGTC); Rebecca Woulfe (CCCS-FRCC); Jess Young (WCU); Christina Carrillo (CDHE); Carl Einhaus (CDHE)

2. Approval of February Meeting Notes

[see handout: 2025-02-11 NOTES-AC.pdf]

Notes approved

3. Announcements and Discussion Items

a. Updates from CCHE Advisor Michael Lightner

Dr. Lightner provided an overview of the CCHE meeting that occurred on March 7 – he informed Council members that this month's meeting was rather short, as there was no work session prior to the business meeting. He reported on the legislative update that was provided by DHE staff but noted that Council members would be receiving this update later in today's meeting. He also noted that there was a brief update from Commissioner Walmer regarding the funding formula review working group.

b. [2025 Legislative Session](#) updates

- SB25-087 Academic Adjustments in Higher Education

This bill would require institutions of higher education to create and adopt policies and practices to support students with disabilities to self-disclose their disability so that the student can receive an academic adjustment from the institution.

- SB25-120 Nuclear Workforce Development and Education Program

This bill would create a nuclear workforce development and education program within CDHE to help meet growing workforce demands in the nuclear energy sector. The bill also establishes a related grant program to provide grants to IHEs for the development or expansion of nuclear engineering degrees, certificate programs, or course offerings. The bill also establishes a Colorado nuclear workforce development and education council to advise and assist CDHE regarding the grant program's implementation and evaluation.

- HB25-1038 Postsecondary Credit Transfer Website

This bill would require CDHE, subject to available appropriations (i.e., with gifts, grants, and donations), to develop and maintain a free, publicly accessible online platform to provide current and potential students who are pursuing postsecondary education in Colorado with relevant information about which credits and courses, work-related experiences, and prior learning opportunities are transferable to or between the state's public IHEs.

- HB25-1041 Student Athlete Name Image or Likeness

This bill allows an IHE or athletic association to compensate a student athlete for the use of the student athlete's name, image, or likeness.

- HB25-1186 Work-Based Learning Experiences in Higher Education

This bill creates the WBL consortium pilot program in CDHE. The purpose of the pilot program is to develop and expand the integration of WBL experiences for students enrolled in higher education.

- HB25-1218 Concurrent Enrollment and Higher Education Courses

This bill has been postponed indefinitely.

- HB25-1221 Emily Griffith Associate of Applied Science Degree

This bill permits EGTC to offer AAS degrees with approval from the SBCCOE. The degree program must include a registered apprenticeship program and certain transferable general education courses.

c. Proposed cannabis-related certificate at Colorado State University Pueblo

Carl informed Council members that the Institute of Cannabis Research (ICR), which is located at Colorado State University Pueblo (CSUP), is proposing to offer a 16-credit hour undergraduate certificate in Foundational Studies in Cannabis. As required by statute and CCHE Policy for all proposed cannabis-related degrees and certificates, a 30-

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day public comment period was opened by Department staff last week, March 3. Comments should be directed to Carl prior to the closing of the public comment period on April 3. Representatives from CSUP responded to questions from Council members, describing the need and target enrollment for this program.

d. Update on SB24-164 data reporting requirements

Carl provided an update regarding the data reporting requirements. He informed Council members that components of the data will be provided by two sources: institutions of higher education and DHE using SURDS (Student Unit Record Data System). All reporting elements are limited to GT Pathways courses. Carl informed Council members that Department staff have been working with a cross-function working group – comprised of volunteer institutional research officers, admissions officers, registrars, and others – to define and operationalize key terms (e.g., transfer student, applied, and accepted) to ensure consistency across all institutions.

The Department is currently working to create a draft spreadsheet/reporting template – like the one used to collect data for Prior Learning Assessment and Students with Disabilities reporting requirements – to use for IHEs to report the data needed that is outside of SURDS. DHE staff are continuing to work with both the cross-functional working group and the larger Data Advisory Group (DAG) to finalize the reporting template.

Carl also informed Council members that the revisions to the Statewide Transfer and GT Pathways policy – with the addition of the Notification of Transfer Credit section – was approved by the Commission last week. He reminded Council members that while the policy has been approved and adopted by the Commission, institutions will have until September 1 to implement these new practices and to post their updated policies on their respective websites regarding the process.

4. New, modified, and closed programs

a. New

- Colorado Mesa University
 - Associate of Applied Science in Applied Technology
- Colorado State University
 - Graduate Certificate in Advanced Quantitative Methods in Psychology
 - Graduate Certificate in Bioprocess Engineering
 - Master of Science in Veterinary Clinic Care (Plan B)
- Colorado State University Pueblo
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Media, Entertainment & Digital Communications

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- Red Rocks Community College
 - Bachelor of Applied Science in Sonography
 - University of Colorado Boulder
 - Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence
 - University of Colorado Denver
 - Bachelor of Arts in Law Studies
 - Master of Science in Cybersecurity and Information Assurance
 - University of Northern Colorado
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Analytical Chemistry
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Applied Leadership
 - Undergraduate Certificate in Professional Selling and Customer Management
 - Bachelor of Science in Climate Sciences
 - Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics
 - Master of Arts in Inclusive Early Childhood Education/Early Childhood Special Education
- b. Modified
- None
- c. Closed Programs
- None

ACTION ITEMS

Issue	Action / Next Step	Assigned To & Date Assigned

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