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News Release

State Board Approves Rules for Administration of Online Programs and Colorado Growth Model

The State Board of Education today approved rules for the administration, certification and oversight of online programs in Colorado.

Among many topics covered, the rules establish:

- Quality standards for online programs
- Criteria for certifying multi-district online programs (any district that enrolls more than 10 students from another district)
- Timelines for reports from online programs
- Processes for corrective action should the need arise

The rules also establish a standardized process for documenting students enrolled in an online program.

Students from military families may participate in online programs, notwithstanding the length of his or her residency in the state, upon moving to Colorado on a change of station basis.

In addition, a student from a United States Armed Services family that moves out of state is still eligible to participate in an online program on a change of station basis, as long as the member of the United States Armed Services qualifies for Colorado residency. To meet that criteria, the member of the United States Armed Services must

maintain Colorado as their state of legal residence for tax purposes and voters must maintain Colorado voter registration.

The complete rules are available through the department's office of online learning, <http://www.cde.state.co.us/onlinelearning/>. For more information about the rules or application for certification of multi-district online programs, contact Ryan DeHerrera, 303-866-3295.

Colorado Growth Model

The board also adopted rules that will lead to implementation of a new system of accountability based on the progress of individual students over time in reaching state standards and readiness for post-secondary success. The system is called Colorado's Growth Model. (Please see related news release today).

Colorado's Growth Model is an essential part of the Colorado Department of Education's goal of developing a system that relentlessly focuses on the learning of all students. This commitment is central to "Forward Thinking," the department's blueprint for transforming its role in public education.

In other action, the state board of education reviewed and/or approved:

- Emergency and permanent rules for the administration of the Supplemental Online Education Grant
- Notice of rulemaking for permanent Supplemental Online Education Grant rules
- 12 initial emergency authorizations; three renewal emergency authorizations; four disciplinary proceedings
- The induction program for Brighton School District 27J, Diocese of Pueblo and Miami-Yoder School District
- Two appeals from Administrative Law Judge, Initial Decisions
- Contingency reserve loan for Adams County School District
- Amendments to rules for budget law
- Amendments to rules for accounting and reporting

- Public school “Facilities and Safety Priorities” for guidance with capitol construction grants

For more information, contact Mark Stevens, 303-866-3898, in the CDE Office of Communications. To sign up for the CDE e-mail news service, please visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/Communications/index.html>.

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