Concurrent Enrollment and ASCENT

2014-2015 Student October Count

Created by the Field Analyst Support Team (FAST)

Concurrent Enrollment Definition

- "Simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a local education provider and in one or more postsecondary courses, including academic or career and technical education courses, at an institution of higher education…"

ASCENT Definition

- **Stands for: Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment**

- **Students participate in ASCENT after completion of their fourth year of high school who have met eligibility requirements to enroll in the ASCENT program.**

- **Objectives:**
  - Increase the percentage of students participating in postsecondary education, especially low-income and traditionally underserved populations
  - Decrease the number of dropouts
  - Decrease the time required for a student to complete a degree or certificate
  - Increase the number of educational pathways available to students

Program Eligibility

Concurrent Enrollment

- 9th to 12th grade
- Under 21 years old
- Received approval for their academic plan of study
- Meet the minimum prerequisites for courses

ASCENT

- 5th year students
- High School transcript shows at least 12 semester credit hours of postsecondary course work prior to the completion of his or her fourth year of high school – this is a programmatic requirement; not an audit requirement
- Student is not in need of basic skills (remedial)
- Admitted into degree or certificate program
- Not participated in ASCENT in previous year(s)

Additional information on programmatic requirements can be found at:
http://www.cde.state.co.us/postsecondary/concurrentenrollment

ASCENT vs. 5th Year CE

5th Year CE

- Retained for instructional purposes
- Limited to nine credit hours per year
  - six credits/semester = FT
  - three credits/semester = PT
- CE courses must apply towards HS grad requirements
  - Evidence on high school transcript
  - If they do not apply, not included in funding

ASCENT

- 5th year program
- Retained student is not eligible in the 6th year
- Early high school completion, not eligible in 4th year
  - Still CE eligible
  - ASCENT eligible in 5th year
- Courses apply towards post-secondary credentials

Documentation Requirements

1. **Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP)**
   - This is now a programmatic requirement only and is not required as part of your audit documentation beginning immediately (for current and future audits)

2. **Cooperative Agreement (MOU)**
   - Local Education Providers (LEP) must have a signed Cooperative Agreement on file with the Institution of Higher Education. An agreement between the district and the student is not required for audit.

3. **Tuition Payment**
   - Districts are required to pay tuition directly to the college for CE and ASCENT. No parent or student shall be required to pay for tuition and subsequently reimbursed by the district or school. Documentation must be provided to show payment of tuition made directly to the institution of higher education by the district.

4. **Attendance**
   - If a student is enrolled in both HS and CE courses, the HS attendance may be used. If a student is only enrolled in CE/ASCENT courses, the district is responsible for obtaining attendance documentation from the institute of higher education for the count window. Sample attendance forms can be found on our website. http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdefinance/auditunit_pupilcount

5. **Transcript**
   - Documentation from the institute of higher education showing the number of credit hours in which a student is enrolled during the current fall semester

2014-2015 CE and ASCENT Funding

- **Concurrent Enrollment (both at IHE and the HS):**
  - Six or more credits = full time
  - Three-five credits = part time

- **ASCENT:**
  - 12 or more credits = full time
  - Three-11 credits = part time

- **Combination High School and Institute of Higher Education**
  - Student meets PT requirements at HS and PT requirements at IHE = full time

- **Successful completion is no longer required**

- **Home study students are only eligible for part-time funding**

2015-2016 CE and ASCENT Funding

- **CE at the high school is based on contact time, not credit hours**
  - Tuition documentation will still be required
  - No other documentation required
  - Programmatic requirements still apply – tuition payment, cooperative agreement, transcripts, ICAPS, etc.
- **CE at IHE will be consistent with ASCENT**
  - 12 plus credits = full time
  - Three-11 credits = part-time
- **Combo for HS and IHE**
  - Student must meet the PT requirements at HS and PT requirements at IHE to be full time.

2014/15					
ASCENT		CE at IHE		CE at District	
FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
12+ credit hours	3-11 credit hours	6+ credit hours	3-5 credit hours	6+ credit hours	3-5 credit hours
Evidence of tuition payment needed		Evidence of tuition payment needed		Evidence of tuition payment needed	
No evidence of successful completion needed		Evidence of successful completion needed		Evidence of successful completion needed	
Evidence of attendance at IHE needed		Evidence of attendance at IHE needed if only enrolled in courses at IHE		No evidence of attendance at IHE needed	

Beginning 2015/16					
ASCENT		CE at IHE		CE at District	
FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
12+ credit hours	3-11 credit hours	12+ credit hours	3-11 credit hours	contact time	contact time
Evidence of tuition payment needed		Evidence of tuition payment needed		Evidence of tuition payment needed	
No evidence of successful completion needed		No evidence of successful completion needed		No evidence of successful completion needed	
Evidence of attendance at IHE needed		Evidence of attendance at IHE needed if only enrolled in courses at IHE		No evidence of attendance at IHE needed	

AVP and CTE

- **If a student is earning college credit simultaneously for an Area Vocational Program (AVP) or Career and Technical Education (CTE), the courses must be treated as concurrent enrollment and the same documentation would be required.**

CE and ASCENT Example

- **Polly Pumpkin is a 5th year student who has not satisfied her minimum requirements for graduation. She is interested in taking some current enrollment courses. Polly's advisor is working with her to create her full time schedule. How many credit hours is Polly allowed to enroll in for the fall semester, and what must the advisor ensure is happening with these credits?**

CE and ASCENT Example

- **Polly Pumpkin is a 5th year student who has not satisfied her minimum requirements for graduation. She is interested in taking some current enrollment courses. Polly's advisor is working with her to create her full time schedule. How many credit hours is Polly allowed to enroll in for the fall semester, and what must the advisor ensure is happening with these credits?**

  - Polly is allowed to take up to 6 credits per semester, no more than 9 for the year, at the institute of higher education. Polly's advisor must ensure that all credit hours received concurrently can be applied to Polly's graduation requirements as defined in her academic plan in order for them to count towards her full time funding eligibility.

Questions?

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Thank you!