

# Concurrent Enrollment

## Student Pathways



### OVERVIEW

The Concurrent Enrollment program provides high school students with the opportunity to enroll in postsecondary courses and earn credit at low or no cost to them for tuition. Colorado data show that students in Concurrent Enrollment programs are more likely to enroll in postsecondary education, have higher postsecondary grade point averages and higher retention rates and have a decreased need for remediation.

### POSTSECONDARY READINESS

Expanding pathways from high school to postsecondary opportunities is essential to increasing the number of postsecondary degrees earned by Coloradans and decreasing high school dropout rates. Concurrent enrollment programs help students develop the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to be postsecondary and workforce ready.

### FUNDING

Districts use per pupil revenue to pay the tuition for the postsecondary courses at the resident community college rate directly to the institution on behalf of the student. The district must enter into a cooperative agreement with a qualified institution of higher education that outlines how credits will be awarded, the negotiated tuition rate, and the establishment of an academic plan of study for students to support ongoing counseling and career planning.

### PARTICIPATION & GROWTH (2017-18 School Year)

- This program continues to see sustained increases in participation, up by nearly 10 percentage points statewide with 30,979 students participating in 2017-18.
- Statewide, 98 percent of school districts (a 2 percentage-point increase from 2016-17), and 85 percent of high schools (a 1 percentage-point decrease from 2016-2017) offer Concurrent Enrollment programs.
- Compared to the previous year of 2016-17, participation in Concurrent Enrollment increased 11 percentage points among Asian students, 16 percentage points among African American students, 23 percentage points among Hawaiian or Pacific Islander students, 17 percentage points among Hispanic students, 18 percentage points among Native American students, 7 percentage points among white, non-Hispanic students and 19 percentage points among students identifying as more than one race.

### Legislation

In May 2009, the Colorado legislature passed the Concurrent Enrollment Programs Act (C.R.S. 22-35-101).

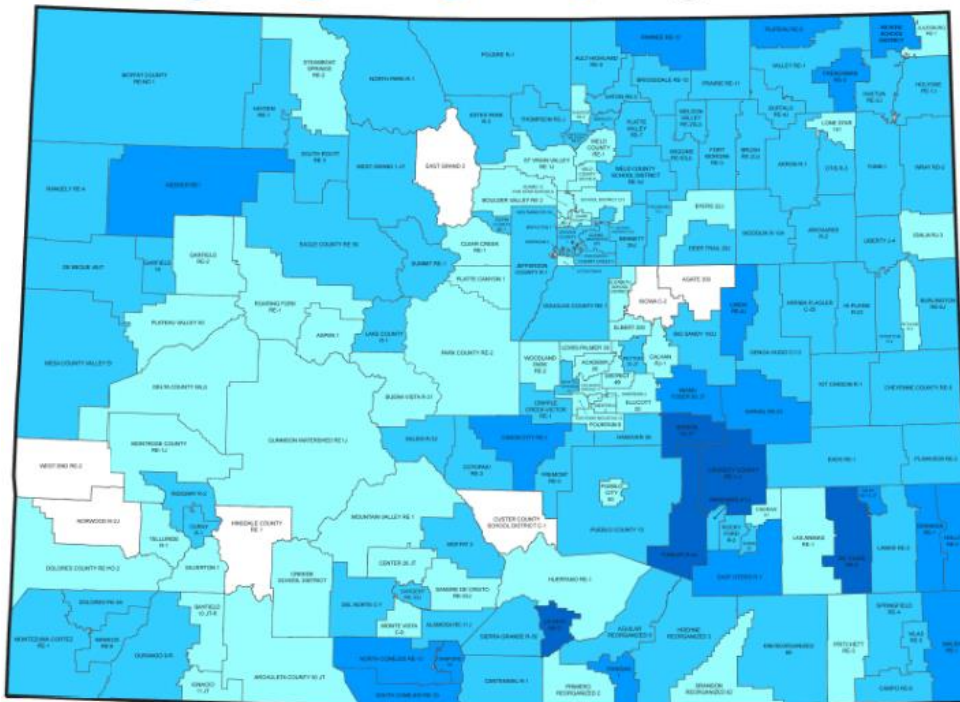
The Act created the Concurrent Enrollment program, defined as the simultaneous enrollment of a qualified student in a local education provider and in one or more postsecondary courses, including academic or career and technical education courses, which may include course work related to apprenticeship programs or internship programs at an institution of higher education.

## STUDENT PERFORMANCE & OUTCOMES

- High school students attempted a total of 264,304 Concurrent Enrollment credit hours. The average number of credit hours attempted per student was 8.5 with an average of eight hours passed.
- 47 percent of Concurrent Enrollment students were enrolled in a credential-seeking program.
- Through Concurrent Enrollment or ASCENT programs, 2,758 students earned some type of postsecondary credential in 2017-18 while still in high school. This is nearly a 37 percent increase over the 2016-17 total credential-completion number of 2,017.

### Concurrent Enrollment 2017-2018

● >50% 
 ● 30-49% 
 ● 10-29% 
 ● <10% 
  Non-participating



CE Participation	
2017	35%
2016	32%
2015	28%
2014	25%
2013	22%
2012	19%

- Charter School Institute
- Colorado Digital BOCES  
CO School for the Deaf & Blind  
Expeditionary BOCES

### Where can I learn more?

- [Office of Postsecondary Readiness – Concurrent Enrollment Resources](#)
- [Annual Report on Concurrent Enrollment, 2016-17 School Year](#)
- [View all CDE fact sheets: www.cde.state.co.us/communications/factsheetsandfaq](http://www.cde.state.co.us/communications/factsheetsandfaq)