

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 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 (2016-17 School Year)

- 28,290 students participated in Concurrent Enrollment statewide; up more than 10 percent from 2015-16.
- More than 52 percent of Concurrent Enrollment students were enrolled in a credential-seeking program.
- The number of Hispanic student participants – Colorado’s largest minority group – increased by 21 percent from 2015-16 to 2016-17.
- Statewide, 96 percent of school districts (a 2 percentage point increase from 2015-2016) and 86 percent of high schools (a 4 percentage point increase from 2015-2016) offered Concurrent Enrollment programs.
- Douglas County School District had the most students participating in Concurrent Enrollment by headcount (2,582 students), while Edison School District 54JT, a small rural district, had the highest percentage (77 percent) of students participating in Concurrent Enrollment.

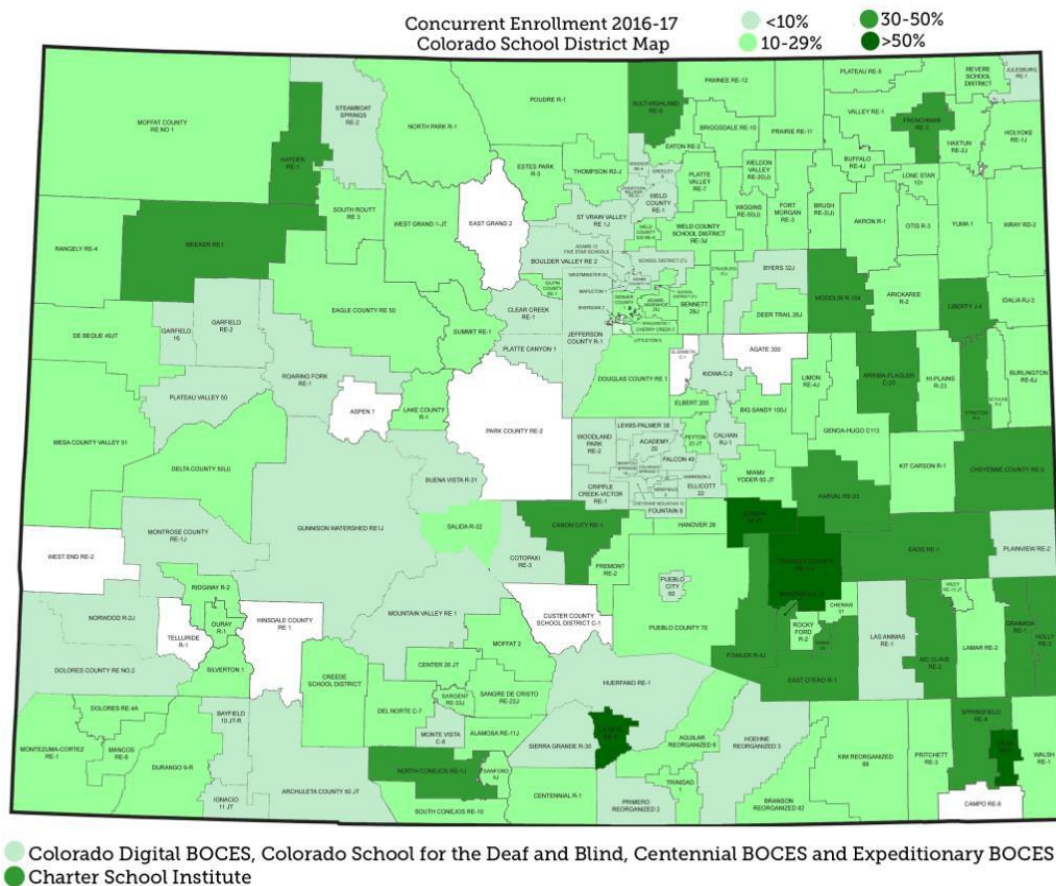
Legislation

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 (that can be applied toward a technical certificate or degree), at an institution of higher education.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE & OUTCOMES

- High school students attempted a total of 242,728 Concurrent Enrollment credit hours. The average number of credit hours attempted per student was 8.6 with an average of 8 hours passed (averages of 8 credit hours attempted and 7.5 credit hours passed in 2015-2016).
- Students passed a large majority of the Concurrent Enrollment hours taken—94 percent—in 2016-2017. This is a 1 percentage-point increase from the previous year.
- Participation in remedial/developmental education Concurrent Enrollment courses makes up 7.1 percent of the Concurrent Enrollment total, representing 2,011 students. This percentage is a decrease from last year’s rate of 7.5 percent, representing 1,911 students. Only students in their 12th grade year may take remedial Concurrent Enrollment courses.



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)