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TO: Members of the Maryland State Board of Education
FROM: Jack R. Smith, Ph.D. 
DATE: April 26, 2016
SUBJECT: College and Career Readiness Determination

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agenda item is to inform the State Board on the progress of the implementation of the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act of 2013 by the local education agencies (LEAs).

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act was passed into law in 2013. The law requires the Maryland State Department of Education, in collaboration with LEAs and Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), to determine whether students, no later than the end of 11th grade, are ready for college-level credit-bearing course work in English Language Arts, literacy and mathematics. The new law goes into effect for students enrolled as 11th graders during the 2015-2016 school year. The law specifically addresses the need for this collaborative group to determine the college placement examinations to be used to make this determination. Additionally, the law states that students who are not determined as college and career ready will enroll in “transition courses or other instructional opportunities” and be reassessed at the end of the 12th grade to determine their status.

Further, the law requires that “students in 9th grade in the 2014-2015 school year shall enroll in a mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends”. However, there exists language in the law stating that the determination status “may not preclude or replace enrollment in a course otherwise required for graduation from high school”.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

After passage of the law in 2013, the Maryland State Department of Education worked in collaboration with the Public Schools Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) and the Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC); we met regularly to discuss criteria to determine students as college- and career-ready. As a result of this work, the stakeholder group outlined the assessments LEAs would use (see Attachment 1) to determine both college readiness and career readiness. Throughout the process, LEAs have been working, in consultation with MSDE, on the outline for transition courses and other instructional opportunities that students who have not met the determination will be required to enroll in during their 12th grade year.

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Local Education Agencies (LEAs) across the state have administered assessments to many 11th graders with the culmination of those assessments to take place during the 2015-2016 administration of PARCC English 11 and PARCC Algebra II, two of the assessments determined as acceptable by the stakeholder group.

In May 2016, MSDE will present four regional forums across the state aimed at familiarizing principals, school counselors, local accountability coordinators, central office staff and others of the implementation process and the transition program to occur during the 2016-2017 school year. The stakeholder group will meet regularly to review the criteria and make changes as necessary from one year to the next.

ACTION:

For information only.

Attachment

Attachment 2A: Local School Systems' Options for Implementing the CCR & CC Act of 2013

| | | 11 th Grade Assessment | | | | | | | | | | Senior Coursework | Re-Assessment | | |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|---------------------------------|---|--|---|--|------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|---------------|
| | | PARCC | SAT | OR | ACT | OR | AP | OR | IB | OR | ACCUPLACER | OR | DUAL ENROLLMENT | If a student is not college and/or career determined at the end of 11 th grade, he/she will: | Re-Assessment |
| English Language Arts (ELA) | English 11 score of Level 4 or 5 | Score of 500 or greater Evidence-based Reading & Writing (EBRW) Section | Score of 21 or greater Average of English Test & Reading Test scores | English Language & Composition or English Literature & Composition Exam Score of 3, 4, or 5 | Lang. A: Lit. SL or HL or Lang. A: Lang. & Lit. SL or HL | Grade 4 or above on one or more | Reading 79+ and Writing 6+ and Sentence Skills 90+ | Admission to and enrollment in a Maryland IHE's appropriate ELA college credit bearing course. Existing local agreements between LEAs and community colleges on CCR are accepted. | Complete an ELA transition course or an additional ELA "instructional opportunity" (online, hybrid, module, etc.) in preparation for re-assessment OR Enroll in a transition course articulated with a community college. These articulated college courses include, but are not limited to, Developmental English, courses approved by the community college as sufficient preparation for college, or courses that are taught by community college faculty. | Summative Course Assessment (externally validated by local community college) OR PARCC 11 OR SAT/ACT OR Accuplacer OR AP Test OR IB Test | | | | | |
| | English 10 score of Level 4 or 5 satisfies the CCR determination (pending further research). | Score of 500 or greater Mathematics Section | Score of 21 or greater on Mathematics Test | Calculus AB Calculus BC Statistics Computer Science Exam Score of 3, 4, or 5 | Math Studies Math SL Math HL Further Math | Grade 4 or above on one or more | Elementary Algebra test score of 70+ or College Level Mathematics test score of 45+ | Admission to and enrollment in a Maryland IHE's appropriate math college credit bearing course. Existing local agreements between LEAs and community colleges on CCR are accepted. | Complete a math transition course or an additional math "instructional opportunity" (online, hybrid, module, etc.) in preparation for re-assessment OR Enroll in a transition course articulated with a community college | Summative Course Assessment (externally validated by local community college) OR PARCC Algebra II OR SAT/ACT OR Accuplacer OR AP Test OR IB Test | | | | | |
| MATH* | Algebra II Score of Level 4 or 5 For 11 th graders enrolled in Geometry, a score of Level 4 or 5 on PARCC Geometry satisfies the CCR determination (pending further research). Please see **below. | Score of 500 or greater Mathematics Section | Score of 21 or greater on Mathematics Test | Calculus AB Calculus BC Statistics Computer Science Exam Score of 3, 4, or 5 | Math Studies Math SL Math HL Further Math | Grade 4 or above on one or more | Elementary Algebra test score of 70+ or College Level Mathematics test score of 45+ | Admission to and enrollment in a Maryland IHE's appropriate math college credit bearing course. Existing local agreements between LEAs and community colleges on CCR are accepted. | Complete a math transition course or an additional math "instructional opportunity" (online, hybrid, module, etc.) in preparation for re-assessment OR Enroll in a transition course articulated with a community college | Summative Course Assessment (externally validated by local community college) OR PARCC Algebra II OR SAT/ACT OR Accuplacer OR AP Test OR IB Test | | | | | |
| Meet CCR Standard | *If a student is determined "college ready" in mathematics prior to 11 th grade, all CCR requirements have been met for mathematics. However, students entering the 9th grade class of 2014 – 2015 school year shall enroll in a mathematics course in each year of high school that the student attends, up to a maximum of 4 years of attendance, unless in the 5th or 6th year a mathematics course is needed to meet a graduation requirement. **For 11 th graders enrolled in Geometry who take PARCC Geometry, a score of 4 or 5 does not indicate placement in a college credit bearing course, and may also be used to meet the SB740 assessment requirement. These 11 th grade students who score a 4 or 5 on PARCC Geometry and enroll in Algebra II as their transition experience are not required to reassess in their senior year. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Career/Tech Programs (CTE) | CTE students who are not designated college and career ready by the end of the 11th grade must be reassessed by the end of the senior year. Reassessment options include all of the CCR Assessment Options listed above for ELA and mathematics, as well as Career and Technology Education Program Technical Skills Assessments that lead to a license or industry certification. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |