

Career and Technical Education Articulated Credit Policy Statement

Nevada State Board of Education/State Board for Career and Technical Education Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education

The Nevada Department of Education and the Nevada System for Higher Education will establish a system of articulated credit, herein referred to as CTE Articulated Credit, for secondary students who complete state-approved programs in career and technical education.

CTE Articulated Credit will enable students to qualify for postsecondary credit while in high school through the establishment of articulation agreements for secondary career and technical education programs that align to postsecondary programs. Such programs must:

1. Lead to a postsecondary credential or a nationally-recognized industry credential earned through course work aligned to industry standards and employment. Programs must lead to placement in employment, further education or training, or military service.
2. Provide preparation in career pathways that include, but not limited to, agriculture, business administration and management, health and human services, public safety, hospitality and tourism, information technology, and other skilled areas related construction, manufacturing, engineering and transportation; such pathways must align to local, regional and/or state economic- and workforce-development priorities;
3. Build student competence through a rigorous program of study that includes core academic requirements, aligns secondary and postsecondary coursework, and is validated by business and industry. To do so, each college will commit to the alignment of postsecondary CTE courses to the state-approved secondary CTE standards and the course sequences in the Nevada Career and Technical Education Course Catalog and determine an eligible number of postsecondary credits eligible for articulation;
4. Through the articulation process, provide for the earning of college credit to high school students that earn the State Certificate of Skill Attainment by: (1) maintaining at least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale, weighted or unweighted, for all units of credit applicable to the course of study in career and technical education; (2) passing the state end-of-program technical assessment according to the established cut score; and (3) passing the state assessment for employability skills according to the established cut score;
5. Transcript college credit according to the approved articulation agreement to students who meet the criteria in item 4 and upon admission to the postsecondary institution.

A primary educational goal in Nevada is to prepare high school students through a sequence of career and technical education courses leading to employment and/or postsecondary education or training. By earning CTE Articulated Credit, students will be equipped to enter postsecondary education and the workforce with technical skills needed for existing and emerging careers.

The Department of Education and the Nevada System of Higher Education agree to work together to maintain an active statewide committee, herein referred to as the Steering Committee for CTE Articulated

Credit to maintain, further develop, and promote the program of CTE Articulated Credit as a viable option for students who may or may not seek a four-year degree.

In addition, the two state boards agree that:

1. The framework for career and technical education programs of study at the secondary level must include:
 - a. All core courses and requirements for a high school diploma;
 - b. State CTE standards that include content standards and performance indicators that show what students should know and be able to do to demonstrate proficiency;
 - c. Course sequences that guide students from entry-level to advanced coursework, culminating wherever possible in state end-of-program assessments; and
 - d. Preparation in employability skills defined by state standards and measures to demonstrate student proficiency.

2. The framework for career and technical education programs of study at the postsecondary level must include:
 - a. Alignment and articulation to secondary education CTE course sequences, wherever such alignment is possible, and to ensure any repetition of similar coursework is minimized;
 - b. Course sequences that provide students with academic and technical skills aligned to local, regional and state employment opportunities;
 - c. Preparation in employability skills based on state or national standards, and measures to demonstrate student proficiency;
 - d. Employer input to identify current skill sets needed for immediate and advanced employment;
 - e. State, regional, and national standards and/or accreditation requirements for the curriculum;
 - f. Accreditation/certification by the appropriate agency when required as a condition of curriculum offerings or employability of the graduate; and

3. In collaboration with the Department of Education and representatives from secondary and postsecondary education, colleges shall establish and maintain state-level articulation agreements according to the following standards:
 - a. Articulation agreements will be based on the alignment of postsecondary CTE courses to the state-approved secondary CTE standards and the course sequences in the Nevada Career and Technical Education Course Catalog;
 - b. Postsecondary institutions will determine the number of credits for each course sequence based on the relative postsecondary course alignment;
 - c. Each postsecondary institution will annually publish its approved articulation agreements to include the number of credits represented by each agreement. The Department of Education will publish and disseminate a complete listing of articulation agreements to all school districts annually;
 - d. The articulation agreements will be binding for all schools and school districts which offer the full career and technical education program, providing such programs maintain the level of quality required for continued eligibility;
 - e. Articulation agreements must be approved by the lead administrators of the secondary school districts and postsecondary institutions;

- f. Articulation agreements include sequences of courses leading to a postsecondary credential or a nationally-recognized industry credential earned through course work aligned to industry standards and employment.

The Nevada State Standards for a Comprehensive Guidance Program K-12 (NAC 389.187) will, for the area of career development, provide the foundation for the development of skills, attitudes and knowledge necessary for the student to successfully transition from school to his or her career, as demonstrated by the student's ability to:

- Develop an awareness of career choices and acquire information relating to those careers;
- Develop and implement employability skills;
- Identify the career goals of the student and acquire the knowledge necessary to achieve those goals; and
- Apply the skills necessary to achieve the student's career goals.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the president of the college and the state superintendent of public instruction, is the document that permits coordination of courses and programs to occur. The MOU shall authorize the implementation of policies and procedures to support the provisions of this statewide policy. The Nevada State Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education are jointly responsible for carrying out a successful program for credit awarded through program articulation.

Articulation agreements will be developed by each college to designate the number of credits to be awarded to qualifying students for the completion of each eligible CTE program, according to the requirements set forth in this policy.

A college may develop a local articulation agreement for career and technical education that applies to a school or school district provided (1) the CTE program is approved by the State and (2) a state end-of-program assessment is not available, whereby through no fault of his or her own, the student cannot meet the criteria to earn articulated credit in Section 4 on page 1.

A college may develop a local articulation agreement for career and technical education that includes additional credits for those students who earn state-approved articulated credit according to the criteria in Section 4 on page 1.