



COMMUNITY COLLEGES &
WORKFORCE PREPARATION

Community College Leader Bulletin

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Special points of interest:

- Program of Study RFA Informational Meeting Oct. 14
- Institutional QFPs Available Online
- Adoption of Senior Year Plus Rules Postponed

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Adult Literacy Initiative Planning Underway

Federal incentive grant funds are being used to seed the design and implementation of a new adult literacy initiative.

The project, called the Adult Literacy for the Workforce Initiative (ALWI), is funded by a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) incentive grant. Iowa was one of 11 states to qualify for the funds based on program performance. The state is eligible to receive \$779,429 through June 11, 2011.

A team has been formed to propose a direction for the initiative. The group will review research and nationally-recognized programs, identify workforce needs, and create a proposal.

To meet the needs of Iowa's workforce, the plan will entail programs adjusting curriculum and instruction to integrate



workplace skills with adult literacy content in a way that fits Iowa's delivery model.

Collaborative partnerships between [adult literacy](#) programs at the state and local levels and other agencies and organizations with similar goals will also be a priority. College programs have begun identifying local partners

and champions to assist with the implementation and promotion of ALWI.

In the fall, an Adult Literacy for the Workplace Taskforce meeting will be held via ICN to assist community college programs in their efforts to identify replicable program components

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Changes to Administrative Rules Proposed

The division has distributed a [draft version](#) of proposed changes to Chapters 21, 23, and 24 of the Iowa Administrative Code to stakeholders for input.

The intent of the overhaul is to provide greater clarity, to remove duplication between sections, codify longstanding guidance, and to update outdated

language.

The proposed rules are expected to be brought to the division's liaison groups in September for discussion. The rules will also be brought to the [Community College Faculty Advisory Committee](#) for comment. College faculty interested in providing input on the proposed rules are encouraged to

talk with their representative on the [committee](#).

It is requested that all comments be submitted to the [division](#) in writing to ensure they are addressed.

The rules are expected to go to the State Board of Education in November to begin the formal

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Tuition Assistance Program Extended into FY 2010

The [tuition assistance program](#) for employees of health care facilities serving individuals with special needs will continue into fiscal year 2010.

The legislature appropriated \$50,000 toward the continuation of the program (previously referred to as the Senate File 2425 reimbursement program).

The Department of Education is currently in the process of updating program guidelines and extending its memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Department of Human Services.

The FY 2010 appropriation will be based on a first-come, first-served, per semester basis. Reimbursement eligibility will begin with the fall 2009 semester and end with the summer 2010 semester or when funds are depleted,

whichever occurs first. Each semester, a deadline will be set for all tuition reimbursement submissions. After the reimbursement process for the semester is complete, the amount of the appropriation remaining will be announced. In the event that more money is requested than is available for a given semester, the reimbursement to colleges will be prorated based on the amount of funding still available.

Reimbursement requests cannot be submitted until after the term has begun.

Established in FY 2009, the pilot program provides tuition assistance to employees of health care facilities serving individuals with mental illness or mental retardation. Employers match state funding appropriated for the program on a dollar-for-dollar basis for participating

employees' tuition. Half of the tuition of each student is covered by their employer, half by state funding allocated to a community college. Students attend tuition-free.

Through the program, students may enroll in up to six credits per semester of courses leading to a degree applicable to the workforce of healthcare facilities serving individuals with mental illness or mental retardation.

Additional information about the program, including a [brochure](#), [guidelines](#), [reimbursement form](#) and [instructions](#), and a list of [college contacts](#) is available on the department's website.

For more information, please contact [Kent Farver](#) at 515-281-3550 or [Catherine Vance](#) at 515-281-4722.



College Quality Faculty Plans Available Online

Each of Iowa's community colleges' quality faculty plans (QFPs) are now available on the department's [website](#).

The [15 QFPs](#) serve as a resource for community college QFP committees and the Community College Statewide Professional Development Advisory Committee. The latter committee is charged with identifying promising practices in QFP implementation and recommending QFP-related state accreditation process protocol.

Additionally, documents with detailed information on quality faculty plan requirements including administrative rules,

frequently asked questions, and recent changes are also available on the [website](#).

Iowa law sets [requirements](#) for the QFP process. Last year, changes to these requirements included expanding the pool of college employees mandated to be included in the plan from full-time faculty to all instructors teaching credit courses, counselors, and media specialists.

The purpose of the QFP process is to guide the hiring and professional development of community college faculty. Each college's institutional plan contains, at a minimum, nine components addressing the professional development of faculty and staff, administrative

procedures, plan maintenance, faculty and staff orientation, and recordkeeping.

The process focuses on instructors as higher education professionals, as lifelong learners, scholars, and experts in their fields.

Community college QFP committees consisting of faculty and administrators are charged with developing and maintaining the plan. When modified, the plans are subsequently submitted to the institution's board of trustees for approval.

For more information, please contact [Jeremy Varner](#) at 515-281-3866 or [Colleen Hunt](#) at 515-281-3542.

State Faculty Standards Clarifications

The department recently released a [memorandum](#) clarifying state minimum faculty standards.

Among the issues addressed is whether high school instructors teaching concurrent enrollment courses are considered adjunct instructors for the purposes of state minimum faculty standards. To be eligible to teach courses under Senior Year Plus, these instructors must meet the same standards as on-campus faculty.

This means that they must meet the college's hiring standards for on-campus instructors and they will need to meet state minimum faculty standards by July 1, 2011. Additionally, all instructors teaching college credit coursework, including contracted high school instructors, must be included in the college's institutional quality faculty plan.

The memo also addresses other issues related to faculty standards and adjuncts.

The state's [minimum faculty standards](#) alone do not ensure faculty are qualified — that is the responsibility of the college administration, the institution's quality faculty plan committee, and other accrediting bodies.

Additional information regarding faculty standards is available on the department's [website](#).

For more information, please contact [Jeremy Varner](#) at 515-281-3866 or [Colleen Hunt](#) at 515-281-3542.



Faculty Supplemental Salary Changes to Payment Procedures

The department has released fiscal year 2010 faculty supplemental salary appropriation allocation amounts for each college.

The allocations are based on each college's proportion of the total full-time equivalent instructor (FTEI) count. The allocation process is the same as last fall.

Legislation passed earlier this year changed requirements for how colleges distribute funds to faculty. Community colleges are required to determine the amount to be paid to individual instructors and evenly divide payments in each pay period throughout the fiscal year.

The department has determined that colleges should follow their regular pay structure and break up the funds in evenly divided payments throughout the normal pay cycle. For example, if the college currently contracts with faculty from September 1 through August 31, then payments should be evenly divided during that time period. The intent of the legislation was not

to hold everyone to a July 1 to June 30 timeframe, but instead to require that the payments be made throughout the contract period.

Due to the changes in the payment process, the department accumulated the full-time

equivalent instructor counts by July 1 to allow the first allocation payment in July 2009. More than \$900,000 will be distributed to college faculty through the program.

For more information, contact [Kent Farver](#) at 515-281-3550.

College	Total FTEI	FY 2010 Allocation
01-NICC	148.590	\$69,424
02-NIACC	87.000	\$40,648
03-ILCC	96.100	\$44,900
04-NCC	41.000	\$19,156
05-ICCC	81.000	\$37,845
06-IVCCD	82.440	\$38,517
07-HCC	151.400	\$70,737
09-EICCD	157.350	\$73,517
10-KCC	283.500	\$132,456
11-DMACC	351.400	\$164,181
12-WITCC	83.000	\$38,779
13-IWCC	126.080	\$58,907
14-SWCC	48.000	\$22,426
15-IHCC	139.000	\$64,943
16-SCC	86.135	\$40,244
Total	1,961.995	\$916,680





Committee Proposes Changes to Accreditation Process

The Community College Accreditation Advisory Committee has proposed changes to the state accreditation process to make it more focused and efficient.

Last fall, the department charged the accreditation advisory committee with assisting with a study of community college accreditation and accountability processes mandated by the legislature. The committee has developed recommendations which will be included in a final report to the General Assembly to be completed this fall.

The recommendations are expected to significantly alter the [state accreditation process](#) and certain other accountability processes. At the crux of the proposal is an effort to remove duplication with the [Higher Learning Commission](#) (HLC) accreditation process and make state visits more focused and efficient. The committee recommended that state visits be conducted after the HLC ac-

creditation team site visits allowing the state visit to be informed by the HLC accreditation report.

The accreditation visit would be conducted with two main components not addressed through the HLC visits — a compliance-oriented review addressing state standards and a continuous improvement-oriented component addressing focus issues identified by the college and the state.

The recommendations also include more fully utilizing management information system data to inform site visit teams and to identify potential compliance issues or other problems.

The committee also proposed changes to interim site visits and equity visits.

The overhaul of the state accreditation process is expected to be effective for fiscal year 2011 visits. Community colleges will be provided with detailed information about the

changes prior to site visits.

Other committee recommendations impact the [program approval process](#) and data quality. Among the recommendations were suggestions on how to improve the flow of the program approval process with a specific emphasis on the program "intent" process.

The committee also provided recommendations on the state system that manages career and technical education program curriculum changes. These recommendations were utilized in the newly implemented AS-28 system.

The department is in the process of preparing a draft report for the accreditation advisory committee to review this fall. The final report will be submitted to the General Assembly in January 2010.

For additional information, please contact [Colleen Hunt](#) at 515-281-0319 or [Jeremy Varner](#) at 515-281-2866.



Professional Development Committee Continuing Work

The Professional Development Advisory Committee is continuing discussion aimed at expanding or enhancing the professional development opportunities available to community college faculty.

The Community College Statewide Professional Development Advisory Committee met on June 26, 2009, at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny. Among the ideas under discussion is the establishment of a common professional development day across

all 15 institutions as early as spring 2011.

The goal of aligning calendars for a day is to allow greater collaboration between colleges on professional development activities.

A proposal will be presented to the chief academic officers, college [QFP](#) (Quality Faculty Plan) committees, and IACCP (Iowa Association of Community College Presidents) in coming weeks.

The group also discussed the

status of QFP revisions, recent department guidance on minimum faculty standards, proposed changes to the state accreditation process, and committee membership rotation protocol.

Upcoming meetings are expected to include continuing planning for the common professional development day (if accepted) and QFP-related file maintenance procedures.

For additional information, please contact [Colleen Hunt](#) at 515-281-0319 or [Jeremy Varner](#) at 515-281-2866.

Program Modifications Forms Accepted

The department began accepting program modification requests in May after all community colleges successfully completed the transfer of course data on career and technical education programs into the new [AS-28 system](#).

The process was on hold while AS-28 forms were transitioned to an electronic database structure. New program approvals were not interrupted by the transition, however. Colleges that received approval during the transition period must submit an AS-28 using the new system. The transition period began November 17, 2008.

All community college career and technical education pro-

grams must be approved by the department. The AS-28 form documents all courses, award options, and other relevant program information.

Implementation of the new system has allowed the department to analyze program data on a statewide level. Through this analysis, a variety of programmatic issues have been identified.

The department has developed a process for fairly and equitably addressing these issues. All potential compliance issues identified by the system will be addressed in the spring of 2010. The division is developing a plan for addressing the issues including proposing formalizing its waiver process.

In the meantime, deferred program modifications are being accepted provided they comply with current administrative rules.

New programs must continue to meet all department guidelines to receive approval, unless a waiver is granted.

The department expects to work closely with the community college chief academic officers as issues are addressed.

Other information about the AS-28 system and [program approval process](#) are available on the department website.

For more information, please contact [Ken Maguire](#) at 515-281-4721 or [Vladimir Bassis](#) at 515-281-3671.



MIS and Financial Reporting Deadlines Approaching

Fall [Management Information System](#) (MIS) and financial reporting deadlines are fast approaching.

Year-end financial reporting deadlines have been set by the Bureau of Community College Services and begin September 1. The balance sheet and income statement reporting dates have been moved back to December 1 to accommodate the colleges using audited financial information in completing the reports. Other reporting deadlines are set for September 1.

Fall 2009 MIS data is due to the department by October 1.

Fiscal year 2009 MIS data was reported in a timely manner with most colleges meeting the August 4 deadline. The department's MIS team expresses its gratitude for the enhanced

Deadlines for MIS and Financial Reporting

CE4B Indirect Costs (Revised version)	Sept. 1
260E Administrative Allowance Tracking	Sept. 1
PSEO and Supplemental Weighting Report (Formerly House File 2527)	Sept. 1
Additional Data Reporting (Trustees, Administrators, and Governmental Relations)	Sept. 1
FY 2009 Credit Student Award File	Sept. 10
Fall 2009 Credit Student Information File	Oct. 1
Fall 2009 Credit Student Course File	Oct. 1
AS-15D (Balance Sheet) Funds 1, 2, and 7	Dec. 1
AS-15E (Income Statement) Funds 1, 2, and 7	Dec. 1



reporting effort. The final FY 2009 MIS file (credit student award file) is due September 10.

For more information, please contact [Vladimir Bassis](#) (MIS) at 515-281-3671 and [Kent Farver](#) (Financial) at 515-281-3550.



ALWI Planning to Continue

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 relevant to community needs. The meeting will include representatives of the department's adult literacy staff, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD), the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED), business and industry, and community college credit and noncredit programs.

A small amount of planning funds will be available to community colleges to facilitate the development of essential partnerships and the preparation of grant applications.

Several factors focus the need for a redesign of adult literacy service in Iowa. One of the primary drivers is a growing demand to meet the needs of recently displaced workers who are identified as not having the basic literacy skills necessary for success in the current job market.

The U.S. Department of Education considers adult basic education (ABE) a bridge to further education and training. Community college adult literacy programs in Iowa meet the needs of the state by providing

services to assist student in their transition to postsecondary education or employment.

Incentive grant funds will be awarded to community colleges beginning in January 2010. The funding period will be 16-18 months. The application process will begin this fall.

The department is collaborating with Iowa Workforce De-

velopment to study the effectiveness of the project. Utilizing a variety of data sources, the evaluation will follow program participants into postsecondary education, occupation-specific training and the workforce.

For more information, please contact [Helene Grossman](#) at 515-281-3640.

Adult Literacy Forum to be Held Sept. 8

An [adult literacy](#) forum will be held Tuesday, September 8 to coincide with [International Literacy Day](#).

The forum will include a panel discussion on issues related to the impact of low literacy rates on the lives of Iowans, their education, and the state's economy.

International Literacy Day has been celebrated since its first observance was inaugurated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1967. It aims to highlight the importance of

literacy to individuals, communities, and societies around the world.

The literacy day forum will be held at the Des Moines Public Library (Central) at 6 p.m. on September 8.

The event is co-sponsored by the [Drake University Adult Literacy Center](#), the New Readers of Iowa Coalition, the [Iowa Literacy Council](#), and the [Iowa Department of Education](#).

For more information, please contact [Phyllis Hinton](#) at 515-281-4723.

DE Partnering with IPTV on GED Orientation Video

AGED orientation video will be produced in coming weeks through a partnership between Iowa Public Television (IPTV) and the Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation.

The video is intended to make orientation information more consistent for potential candidates and easier to deliver. Iowa's community colleges

have numerous testing centers where students work toward a high school equivalency diploma (GED).

A committee of GED chief examiners from across the state will provide input on the content of the video. The video will feature Morgan Halgren, a respected Iowa narrator, and will include information about the GED testing

process, eligibility, fees, and test preparation.

Additionally, each community college will be able to supplement the video with local information. The video will be available to all 15 community college adult literacy programs.

For more information, please contact [Helene Grossman](#) at 515-281-3640.



Intermediary Network Technical Assistance to be Provided

The division is planning technical assistance for colleges implementing intermediary networks. The session will be held September 10-11 at Des Moines Area Community College's Hunziker Center in Ames.

The department is awarding a total of \$900,000 to Iowa community colleges to support the development of regional intermediary networks. The planned technical assistance was recommended by the Intermediary Steering Committee based on reviews of college's grant applications.

The steering committee encourages all colleges to send teams to the meeting. The session will provide an opportunity for teams to network and begin working toward a common vision.

New Ways to Work has developed the technical assistance which includes the following topics:

- Providing an overview of intermediary practice.
- Developing next steps in work plans based on the Intermediary Network Frameworks for Success.
- Building a framework for a statewide professional learning community.
- Strengthening local intermediary practice.
- Building peer relationships focused on intermediary work.
- Developing steps to plan for sustainability of Iowa's intermediary networks.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at noon on Thursday, September 10, and end by noon Friday, September 11. The department will provide lunch for participants on Sep-

tember 10. Teams are responsible for other expenses including, but not limited to, travel, lodging, and meals.

The intermediary network grants are managed by the Iowa Department of Education with funds received through the Iowa Department of Economic Development (IDED).

The steering committee was formed to provide guidance about the project to the colleges. The committee members include representatives from a high school, targeted industries, community colleges, the Iowa Department of Education,

of the 15 colleges' applications have been approved. Of the remaining three colleges, two have been asked to revise their applications and one will submit an application this month.

To fund the project, the Department of Education was awarded a grant of \$900,000 from the Department of Economic Development on behalf of Iowa's 15 community colleges. The state support will be used to leverage local matching support.

Intermediaries are organizations that connect the classroom to the workplace by

"Intermediaries connect employers, government agencies, social services, schools, and local communities to ensure youth success."

IDED and the business community.

Each college is applying for a \$60,000 grant to support the development of a regional intermediary. The steering committee met in June and July to review applications submitted by the colleges. Currently, 12

serving as a central point of contact, brokering or providing services such as internships, job shadowing, worksite tours, classroom speakers, and professional staff development.

For more information, please contact [Jenny Foster](#) at 515-281-8488.



Auto Tech Workshop to be Held Sept. 17

A workshop for community college and high school automotive technology instructors will be held September 17, from 9:30 to 3:00, at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny.

The department is underwriting the cost of workshop including: supplying a cutting edge automotive curriculum, paying \$120 for a substitute, paying mileage, and providing lunch. The internet-based curriculum is designed for both

secondary and postsecondary programs and is aligned with [National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation](#) (NATEF) standards. Provided through a partnership with Today's Class, it includes training for entry-level technicians in a variety of automotive basics.

See the [flyer](#) posted on the department [website](#) for details. For more information, please contact [Andy Wermes](#) at 515-281-8353.

"Career and technical education programs play a critical role in aiding students' successful transition from secondary to postsecondary education."

Perkins Reserve Funds to Support POS Development

The Iowa Department of Education expects to award [Perkins](#) reserve funds to each region to support the development of programs of study (POS) and implementation of technical skill assessments.

Community colleges will serve as the fiscal agents for the \$150,000 project set to begin this fiscal year. The initiative is intended to promote regional collaboration between secondary and postsecondary institutions.

Programs of study are sequences of at least three units of career and technical education (CTE) coursework at the secondary level linked to postsecondary education leading to a community college award or industry-issued credential.

Iowa's [state plan](#) for implementing Perkins IV requires colleges and districts to align 75 percent of secondary CTE programs to the POS model by the end of fiscal year 2013.

A committee with representa-

tives of community colleges met twice to develop the parameters of the grant program.

Applications will be reviewed by a steering committee of Bureau of CTE Services consultants. The department plans to ensure a variety of career clusters are represented through the initiative.

An informational meeting will be held October 14 to explain the initiative, answer questions regarding the Request for Applications (RFA), provide guidance related to POS and technical skill assessment implementation, and to provide time for teams to begin developing regional plans.

A goal of the project is to create regional communities of practice. Regional teams will consist of, at a minimum, the community college's CTE dean or director, select CTE faculty, and the tech prep coordinator will meet with at least three secondary partners. The teams will meet monthly on the implementation of the regional plans.

The plans developed by each region must involve the implementation of at least one POS drawing board for at least three secondary school districts. Additionally, they will include a detailed plan outlining goals, benchmarks, timelines, and budget.

By December 31, 2009, colleges will be required to submit information identifying the current state of POS implementation. A final report must be completed by August 1, 2010, describing how POS and technical skill assessment goals and objectives were attained and providing other requested information.

The department anticipates that a second year of funding may also be available for fiscal year 2011. This funding could be focused on implementation region-wide of the plan developed by the college during the initial funding period.

For more information, please contact [Roger Foelske](#) at 515-281-4700 or [Jenny Foster](#) at 515-281-8488.



STEM Equity Pipeline Project Activities Continue

The [STEM Equity Pipeline Project](#) leadership team is continuing work on a variety of activities to increase gender equity in STEM education.

Activities to-date include:

- Implementation of a five-step process at three pilot community colleges.
- Collaboration with Project Lead the Way to provide counselors and teachers with gender equity resources and technical assistance.

- Delivery of presentations throughout the state at STEM education-related conferences and workshops.
- Collaboration on activities with the Girl Scouts of Iowa, area education agencies, Iowa Workforce Development, and public universities.

A state leadership team is coordinating [pipeline project activities](#). The team has established a virtual learning community which allows members

to share strategies, resources, models, and research supporting the project's goals.

The project is funded by a [National Alliance for Partnership in Equity](#) (NAPE) grant.

For a complete list of team members and additional information, visit the [STEM Equity Pipeline Project website](#).

For additional information or to participate in the project, please contact [Jeanette Thomas](#) at 515-281-3636.

Career Info System Expanded to Community Center Web Portal

Iowa's career information and decision-making system has been expanded to include a host of new services. Provided at no cost to Iowa community colleges, school districts, and other entities, the community center web portal was launched on August 3.

The enhanced system will include many of the same career planning resources previously offered through Iowa Choices®, but also include a variety of new features. The url to access the web portal is www.ihaveaplaniowa.gov.

The portal will serve as a one-stop shop for career and college planning, financial aid resources, college admission

applications, financial literacy tools, and Iowa employment opportunities.

The career information component of the web portal is the state-designated career information and decision-making system.

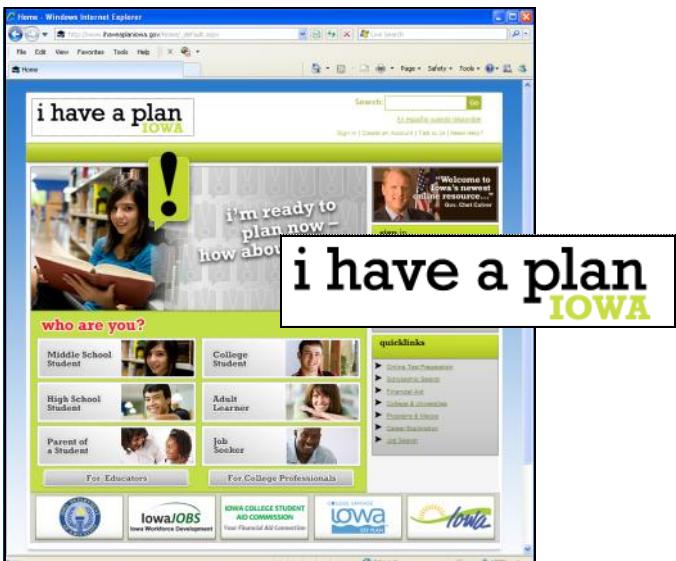
Students with existing portfolios in Iowa Choices® will have the option to import them into the new system.

New features include:

- Choices Planner® and Choices Explorer® integrated into a single product with personalized content based on the age of the user.
- Customized "Guideways" which provide a step-by-step

process for grades 9-12 that meets state reporting requirements.

- Unlimited free access to online ACT/SAT/GRE test preparation.
- Online application for all state administered financial aid programs.
- Ability to search for local, state, and national scholarships.
- Online admission applications to Iowa colleges and universities.
- District-wide reporting capabilities.
- Connection to Iowa internship and employment opportunities.
- Expanded, unlimited access to include all Iowa citizens.



Features of Iowa Choices® that will continue with the community center web portal include:

- Free access to career information and assessments for Iowa students.
- Free training and support from the Iowa College Aid Student Aid Commission.
- Lesson plans and activities for use in the classroom.
- Online portfolio to store education and career plans, documents, assessment results, and other related materials.

For more information, please contact [Linda Berg](#) at 515-242-5032.

State Board of Education to Review Proposed Rules

Continued from Page 1

rulemaking process. This process includes a formal public comment period, public hearing, and review by a legislative rules review committee.

Administrative rules are used by state agencies to implement laws passed by the legislature. Chapters 21, 23, and 24 govern community colleges, adult education, and community college

accreditation.

For more information, please contact [Jeremy Varner](#) at 515-281-3866 or [Colleen Hunt](#) at 515-281-0319.



(MATH-IN-CTE)

Math-in-CTE Professional Development Continuing

This month, three sites held [Math-in-CTE](#) training for 56 teams of paired mathematics and CTE instructors.

Great Prairie Area Education Agency (AEA), AEA 267, and Indian Hills Community College hosted the professional development activity. Instructor teams were drawn from the CTE areas of agriculture, family and consumer sciences, business, construction, manufacturing, and information technology.

All sites created at least two lessons each and established some extra time outside of the days scheduled for training.

The August training sessions were the first four days of the year-long professional development activity. Teams learned to apply the elements of a Math-in-CTE lesson and developed their

first enhanced lessons. The teams will meet again in October and in the spring for four additional days of professional development. Upcoming sessions will focus on refining the process and continuing lesson development.

The goal of the Math-in-CTE initiative is to provide CTE instructors with a means of en-

tors with a math instructor for extended professional development throughout the academic year. The process provides the opportunity for math and CTE teacher teams to work together in communities of practice and to identify where math intersects with CTE concepts and applications. The research-based model has been shown

"This training is extremely beneficial from a new [CTE] instructor's perspective ... Working with the math instructor helped me to get re-acquainted with the correct math terminology.

This will be beneficial for my students."

— **Mark Van Velsor,**
Indian Hills Community College

hancing the mathematics already embedded in their occupational curriculum. Developed by the [National Research Center for CTE](#) (NRCCTE), the [Math-in-CTE](#) professional development model partners CTE instruc-

to have a positive impact on student learning of mathematics with no loss to CTE content.

For more information, contact [Pat Thieben](#) at 515-281-4707.

MIS Reports Available Online

- [Condition of Community Colleges](#)
- [Fall Credit Enrollment](#)
- [Tuition and Fees](#)
- [Certified Budget](#)
- [Joint Enrollment](#)
- [Performance Indicators](#)
- [Financial Data Brochure](#)

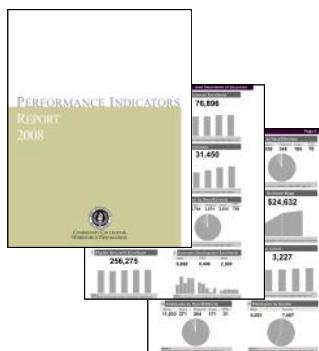
Performance Indicators Report Released

The [2009 Iowa Community Colleges' Performance Indicators' Report](#) was presented to the State Board of Education in July.

The performance indicators are used to monitor progress within the framework of the five-year [strategic plan](#) for Iowa's community colleges. The indicators are common to all 15 colleges and are approved by the State Board of Education.

Following a recommendation of the Community College Performance Indicators Task-force, this year's report was streamlined to reflect the colleges most essential activities.

The taskforce is charged with recommending changes to the performance indicators.



For more information, please contact [Vladimir Bassis](#) at 515-281-3671 or [Tom Schenk Jr.](#) at 515-281-3753.

2010 CIP Changes

The [National Center for Education Statistics](#) (NCES) has updated the [Classification of Instructional Programs](#) (CIP) for 2010.

The CIP code set is updated every ten years. The department expects to begin using the new code set for the fiscal year 2011 [Community College MIS Reporting Manual](#).

The department anticipates only a minor impact on existing programs. The new code set will, however, help to better classify new programs in emerging fields.

For more information, please contact [Ken Maguire](#) at 515-281-4721.

PLTW Interim Evaluation Report Released

The Iowa Department of Education has released an [interim evaluation report](#) for the implementation of [Project Lead the Way®](#) (PLTW) in Iowa.

The report provides initial findings for an intensive three-year study concluding in late 2012.

Iowa PLTW enrollment during the 2007-2008 academic year was 1,737 students — up 66 percent over the previous year. The report shows these students were more likely to enroll in math and science courses than students who did not enroll in the program. The research team also found that PLTW participants are more likely to be male, white, ineligible for free and reduced lunch, and have a higher cognitive ability than their peers prior to enrollment.

The department has partnered with the University of Iowa, and Iowa State University to execute the study of effectiveness of the PLTW program.

"We will determine the extent Project Lead The Way® helped students achieve immediate and long-term success using the best research methods available," said Tom Schenk, Jr., a consultant with the department and principal investigator of the evaluation.

The evaluation will compare the success of PLTW students to a set of typical students. Researchers will use a decade of student data to measure several student outcomes in high school and college, includ-

ing the program's ability to improve academic performance, increase graduation rates, improve a student's transition into higher education, and facilitate students' successful completion of a STEM-related major in college.

"Education leaders can use these data to talk in concrete ways about the phenomenon of STEM education and its impact in our schools," said Dr. Frankie Santos Laanan, a professor at Iowa State University's Office of Community College Research and Policy and a co-principal investigator. The study is

of 41 \$50,000 grants were awarded through the project. Additionally, a total of seven \$5,000 grants have been awarded for the implementation of PLTW biotechnical engineering courses.

PLTW is now in its fourth year of implementation in Iowa and the department expects the number of participating schools to increase to 60 or more by 2012.

[PLTW](#) is an intensive curriculum in engineering and biotechnology at Iowa high schools. The curriculum has been



funded by the Iowa Math and Science Education Partnership and a grant from the Kern Family Foundation.

The research project follows implementation of the \$3.1 million Iowa PLTW Partnership Project. Since fall 2008, a total

implemented to meet the growing demand in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) industries.

For more information, please contact [Tom Schenk, Jr.](#) at 515-281-3753.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNITY COLLEGES
AND WORKFORCE
PREPARATION

Grimes State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

Phone: 515-281-8260
Fax: 515-281-6544
www.state.ia.us/educate

Roger Utman
Administrator
515-281-8260
roger.utman@iowa.gov

Colleen Hunt
Bureau Chief
515-281-0319
colleen.hunt@iowa.gov

Roger Foelske
Bureau Chief
515-281-4700
roger.foelske@iowa.gov

Jeremy Varner
Consultant
515-281-3866
jeremy.varner@iowa.gov

Helping Communities Meet the Learning Needs of All Their Children and Adults

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Online Reporting System to Track Stimulus Funds

The state of Iowa has designated an online reporting system for submitting information required by the [American Recovery and Reinvestment Act \(ARRA\)](#).

Statewide regional trainings will be held in September for the online reporting system. The sessions will include an overview of the submission process and assist users with obtaining log-in information. The overview will include a presentation on ARRA policy issues and data element definitions.

The hands-on, computer-based training will be held in five locations in the state between September 10 and 18. Dates and locations are forthcoming on the department's [website](#).

Additional training will be provided to community college business officers at their fall meeting on September 18.

The system is expected to be operational by the first quarter reporting deadline of October 10. The state has selected two community colleges to assist with testing prior to implementation.

Other guidance recently released includes an interpretation that jobs saved indirectly by the infusion of stimulus funds cannot be counted as jobs retained for reporting purposes. Based on guidelines provided by the Iowa Department of Management, the only jobs that can be counted as either jobs saved or jobs retained are ones in which the colleges are directly supporting with stimulus funds. This interpretation is important since it clarifies that if a college chooses not to use the funds for salaries, their reported information will not show any jobs retained or saved through the ARRA program.

The ARRA provides temporary stimulus funds for investment in education as well as a variety of other priorities. One of the primary purposes of the stimulus is to save jobs.

ARRA funds are subject to rigorous reporting requirements to ensure transparency and accountability. Community colleges are required to report quarterly on how stimulus funds are spent.

The process and application was developed by the Iowa Department of Management and the Iowa Department of Administrative Services.

For additional information on the stimulus package including ARRA reporting requirements, please visit the department's [website](#).

For more information, please contact [Kent Farver](#) at 515-281-3550.

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If you have questions or grievances related to compliance with this policy by the Iowa Department of Education, please contact the legal counsel for the Iowa Department of Education, Grimes State Office Building, Des Moines, IA 50319-0146, telephone number 515/281-5295; or the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Citigroup Center, 500 W. Madison Street, Suite 1475, Chicago, IL 60661, telephone number 312/730-1560, fax 312/730-1576, email: OCR.Chicago@ed.gov.

