

BOARD OF REGENTS
BRIEFING PAPER
HANDBOOK Revision: Tech Prep Credit

BACKGROUND & POLICY CONTEXT OF ISSUE:

Under current Board policy (Title 4, Chapter 16, Section 7), all high school juniors and seniors may be admitted and enroll in a NSHE college or university, subject to institutional approval. Additionally, high school juniors and seniors identified as Vocational Program Completers may be admitted to a NSHE community college and enroll in more than six credits per semester, based on written, articulated occupational program agreements with school districts. At the request of the Tech Preparing Committee, the current policy was reviewed by the NSHE Academic Affairs Council (AAC) to determine if high school students in their freshman and sophomore year should also be granted credit for career and technical education courses. The AAC recommends that Board policy be clarified to allow credit for these courses completed by high school pupils in their freshman and sophomore year, but only when those students have successfully completed advanced courses in their junior or senior year in the same sequence.

ALTERNATIVE(S) TO WHAT IS BEING REQUESTED/RECOMMENDED:

To continue to deny credit for courses completed prior to the junior or senior year.

COMPLIANCE WITH BOARD POLICY:

Consistent With Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # _____ Section # _____
X Amends Current Board Policy: Title # _____ Chapter # 16 Section # 7
Amends Current Procedures & Guidelines Manual: Chapter # _____ Section # _____
Other: _____
Fiscal Impact: Yes _____ No _____
Explain: _____

**POLICY PROPOSAL
TITLE 4, CHAPTER 16, SECTION 7
Tech Prep Policy**

Additions appear in boldface italics, deletions are ~~stricken and bracketed~~

Section 7. Early Admissions and Enrollment Policy for Secondary Students

1. High school juniors and seniors may be admitted and enroll in a NSHE college or university, subject to the approval of appropriate institution officials.
2. High school juniors and seniors identified as Vocational Program Completers may be admitted and enroll in ~~more than six (6)~~ **three or more** credits per semester, based on ~~written, articulated [occupational]~~ program agreements with designated school districts. ~~For these juniors and seniors only, college credit may also be given for career and technical courses previously completed in the freshman or sophomore year of high school.~~
3. Students below the high school equivalent of junior level who are identified as ~~academically~~ **academically** gifted or talented by the school district and recommended by the high school principal will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis for enrollment status in credit courses. ~~Otherwise, high school students below the junior level may enroll for zero (0) credits in Community Services courses only.~~
4. High school students who have been officially excused from compulsory school attendance on the condition of equivalent instruction outside the school (e.g., home school) may be admitted and may enroll if, on a case-by-case basis, ~~it is~~ **it is** determined that the student is:
 - a.) Equivalent to a high school junior or senior or receives approval from the appropriate institution official; or
 - b.) Equivalent to a level below a high school junior and is identified by the institution as academically gifted or talented.
5. Each college or university may establish performance or testing standards to determine readiness for enrollment or admission when other criteria for admission or enrollment are not met.
6. An NSHE institution may, on a limited basis, admit students who have been identified as possessing the abilities and skills necessary for advanced academic work in an alternative program of education for profoundly gifted and talented students that may include degree or non-degree options without reference to the credit limitations established elsewhere in Chapter 16.

TECH PREP/ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM

JOINT POLICY STATEMENT

for

The Nevada State Board of Education/State Board for Career and Technical Education
and

The Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education

The Nevada State Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) support the Tech Prep/Associate Degree program in Nevada and commit to the continued implementation of the program to all school districts and community colleges in the state.

The Tech Prep/Associate Degree program was developed in accordance with the goals of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act of 1990. According to the goals of the Carl D. Perkins Act, the Tech-Prep/Associate Degree program means a combined secondary and postsecondary program that:

1. Leads to an associate degree or certificate of achievement, or completion of a sequence of courses leading to technical preparation;
2. Provides preparation in technical fields such as engineering technology, applied science, mechanical, industrial, practical arts or trades, agriculture, health or business;
3. Builds student competence through a rigorous competency-based course of study that rests on a solid foundation of applied academics and is validated by business and industry;
4. Provides the opportunity for high school students to earn up to twenty-one college credits through the articulation process;
5. Provides for the immediate transcription of credit to high school students in grades eleven and twelve upon the students earning a grade of A or B in the articulated course/course sequence. Students who earn a grade of A or B in the articulated course/course sequence prior to the eleventh grade and who complete an advanced course in the same sequence in the eleventh or twelfth grade, may receive college credit retroactively for such credit earned before the eleventh grade.

Example: High school courses Accounting I and II are articulated for college credit. A student who earns a grade of A or B in Accounting I in the ninth grade and a grade of A or B in Accounting II in the tenth grade may earn six college credits upon completing Accounting III with a grade of A or B in the eleventh grade.

6. Provides a highly trained, technically competent workforce for business and industry; and
7. Leads to placement in employment, further education, or military service.

A primary educational goal in Nevada is to prepare high school students through a Tech Prep/Associate Degree, a sequence of technical courses leading to employment or a course of study designed for college preparation. These students will be equipped to enter postsecondary education and the workforce with technological skills appropriate to the majority of new and existing jobs.

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 Statewide Tech Prep Steering Committee to maintain, further develop, and promote Tech Prep as a viable option for students who may or may not seek a four-year degree.

1. The framework for the Tech Prep/Associate Degree course of study at the secondary level shall include: