

STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Performance Measure Modifications

Request:

The Performance Measures Committee in November, 2011, proposed two measures for Basic Skills, Basic Skills Progress and GED Diploma Passing Rate. Since the measures were approved, issues have arisen which will require modifications. The State Board is asked to approve the proposed descriptions so the measures can be included in the 2013 Performance Measures report.

Based on these issues and building upon the work of the Performance Measures Committee, both the Research and Performance Management and College and Career Readiness staffs collaborated and made modifications to the measures. These modifications have been discussed with the Performance Measures Committee Chairs and approved by the Basic Skills State Leadership Advisory Board.

Basic Skills Progress

Current Description:

Percentage of students post-tested during a program year who progress.

Proposed Description:

Percentage of students who progress as defined by an educational functioning level.

Reason for Modifications:

The North Carolina assessment policy allows colleges to use any of the National Reporting System (NRS) approved tests which have different scale scores for assessing students. Since scale scores are not the same across tests and improvement by one scale score is not the same across all tests, we believe that colleges cannot be evaluated equitably based solely on increasing scale scores from the pre-test to the post-test.

The *National Reporting System Implementation Guidelines* requires states to utilize educational functioning levels to evaluate Basic Skills progress. Thus, we are proposing that the description be changed to bring the State Performance Measure in alignment with the NRS and state policies for assessment.

GED Diploma Passing Rate

Current Description:

Percentage of GED students who attempt all subtests over two years who receive a GED Diploma

Proposed Description:

Percentage of students taking at least one GED test during a program year who receive a GED diploma during the program year.

Reason for Modifications:

The Performance Measures Committee recommended a measure related to the percentage of students receiving a GED diploma. Since that time we have more information about the new GED test which goes into effect January 2014.

Beginning in January 2014, students who have not received their GED diploma will have to begin again and take the new GED tests; therefore, using two calendar years as a measure will not work for two years,

2013 and 2014. Thus, the measure as previously drafted would have to be suspended because the GED tests would not be the same for two consecutive years. This modification will minimize the impact of the test transition on the performance measure.

To ensure that colleges get credit for students they instruct and not just test, it is recommended that the cohort be Basic Skills students at our colleges who have an educational functioning level equivalent to a high school student. Basic Skills data support that these students are capable of passing the GED test in one program year.

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