

AB 288 – College and Career Access Pathways

As Introduced: February 11, 2015



Assembly Members Holden (D-Pasadena) and Olsen (R-Modesto)

Principal Co-Authors: Assembly Members Alejo, Baker, Chavez, McCarty, Santiago, and Weber

The California Community Colleges Urge A "YES" Vote on AB 288

Purpose of AB 288:

AB 288 seeks to facilitate the development and promotion of K-12 and community college dual enrollment programs that target a broader range of high school students.

Background:

Dual enrollment has proven to be an effective strategy to help advanced high school students begin college early. This practice serves an important purpose, however, increasingly dual enrollment is viewed as a strategy to help a broader range of students' transition from high school to college, particularly students from backgrounds for which a college education is not a given.

California's community colleges utilize an open door admission policy for all students, including those academically underprepared for college-level coursework. Many high school educators see dual enrollment as a promising strategy to improve college-readiness skills. Dual enrollment offers students the opportunity to acquire core academic skills necessary to be successful in college, and participants gain confidence as a result of early exposure to a college environment.

Policy Solutions: What Does the Bill Do?

AB 288 establishes the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) partnerships to offer dual enrollment to a broader range of students by reducing policy barriers that hinders the development of such programs. The pathways would be uniquely customized to the needs of local student populations and AB 288 would save students and the state time, money, and scarce educational resources.

DUAL/CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

DEFINITIONS:

These two terms are often used interchangeably.

Dual and concurrent enrollment offer high school students access to college-level coursework. In some cases students earn both high school and college credit depending on approval from school and community college governing boards.

Key Provisions of AB 288:

Expands Dual Enrollment Partnerships:

- Authorizes** a school district and community college district to enter into a CCAP partnership with the goal of developing seamless pathways from high school to community college for career technical education or preparation for transfer, or helping high school students achieve college and career readiness.
- Requires** CCAP partnership agreements to be approved at regularly scheduled open public meetings of the governing boards of both districts, and calls for additional reporting requirements regarding the scope of the partnership, list of community college courses to be offered, and criteria to assess the ability of students to benefit from those courses.

Removes Statutory Barriers to Dual Enrollment:

- Authorizes** community college districts to assign a higher priority enrollment to CCAP participants equivalent to students attending a Middle College High School;
- Allows** a community college district to limit enrollment in a course offered on a high school campus solely to CCAP students;
- Allows** a CCAP student to enroll in a maximum of 15 units (limited to 4 courses per term) if certain conditions are satisfied; and,
- Prohibits** assessing any fees to high school students in CCAP courses.

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SUPPORT: Community College League of California; Los Angeles Community College District (CCD); Los Rios CCD; Peralta CCD;