

Making Core 24 Work For All Students: Building Policy Flexibility

GROUP: _____

Worksheet 1: Two-for-One. The ITF has identified the possibility of creating a new “2 for 1” policy that would enable students to earn 1 credit and satisfy 2 requirements when taking a CTE course that has been designated by the district to be equivalent to a core academic course: One credit is recorded on the transcript, while two graduation requirements are “checked off” as having been met. This policy would not decrease the total number of credits required—the student must still earn 24 credits—but would increase flexibility by enabling a student to choose an elective credit. The ITF also talked about limiting students to one “two for one” opportunity. The advantages and disadvantages of the policy, identified previously by the ITF, are listed below.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides greater flexibility for students to build other courses into their schedules• Provides greater flexibility for students in skills centers• Will encourage districts to establish course equivalencies, and the process of collaboration among teachers to establish equivalencies could contribute to professional learning communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Without clear state parameters, the policy could be interpreted inconsistently across districts and make it difficult for students to transfer credits across schools• Might require changes to standardized transcript

For discussion:

Based on the feedback you have received to date and the further thinking you have done, would you:

1. endorse the policy description as written above? _____yes _____no
 - a. If no, how would you revise the policy description, advantages, and disadvantages?

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2. What advantages and disadvantages would you add/change?

3. Under what circumstances, if any, would you extend this policy to two academic courses (e.g., physics and math)?