

Making Core 24 Work for All Students: Building Policy Flexibility

GROUP: _____

Worksheet 4: Competency-based Credit. Flexibility is created when students can demonstrate mastery of designated competencies without time constraints (in lieu of demonstrating competency only after also investing a designated minimum amount of time. SBE's current WAC permits districts to grant credit for students who demonstrate competency, according to written district policy. The ITF has considered the possibility of adding another statement to the WAC to provide additional direction about competency-based credit. That statement would be: *Permit students who meet proficiency on end-of-course state assessments to earn credit, even if they fail the course.* The advantages and disadvantages of the policy, identified previously by the ITF, are listed below.

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides guidance to districts about competency-based credit• Consistent with the state's direction toward standards-based learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If students know they can earn credit as long as they pass the EOC, they may choose to disregard other course requirements• If students don't have to take the course, they may miss out on aspects of the course not covered by the assessment

The policy consideration raised a host of other questions, including:

- Does a student have to take the course at all? What if a student asks to take the EOC assessment before ever taking the course (assuming this were feasible)—and the student passes the EOC?
- Is proficiency on an end-of-course (EOC) state assessment sufficient to earn credit?

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

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- a. If no, how would you revise the policy description, advantages, and disadvantages?